



Jordan Times

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EC housing project takes off in Gaza

OCCUPIED GAZA STRIP (AFP) — Construction starts Wednesday on a \$20 million project funded by the European Community (EC) to build 700 homes for Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip, officials said. EC representatives and consultants from member countries will attend the laying of a foundation stone for the 18-month project aimed at first-time, low-income buyers who do not own land. The first 120 units in six-storey blocks are sited around Nussirat, Maghazi and Deir Al Balah. Another 300 are scheduled for the Gaza area, 120 in Khan Yunis and 120 more from October for Rafah on the border with Egypt. "This money will solve one per cent of the housing problems in Gaza and cannot be a real solution to the problem," said Abdul Salam Zuhairi, who sits on the 14-member council. Potential buyers have to find a deposit of between \$3,000 and \$5,000. The council, which offers a 20-year mortgage with average monthly repayments of \$100, will plough money back into new projects. "We hope the EC will offer further support in the future," Mr. Zuhairi said. "Housing is difficult because we don't have much land. Most land is under the control of the Israeli authorities." The EC began direct aid to the occupied territories on an annual basis in 1987 with \$2.6 million, rising to \$15 million last year as well as an exceptional \$50 million package after the 1991 Gulf war.

Rockets slam into northern Israel

KIRYAT SHMONA (R) — Guerrillas in Lebanon fired five rockets into the northern Israeli settlement of Kiryat Shmona early Monday, slightly injuring six people, security sources said. Lebanese security sources said a sixth Katyusha rocket hit the Lebanese frontier town of Maroun Al Ras but no injuries were reported. Security sources in southern Lebanon said the attack appeared to be in retaliation for an Israeli helicopter raid on the Lebanese village of Zawtar Sunday. The Israeli army said two people were injured in Kiryat Shmona by glass shards, two by rocket shrapnel, one from shock and one was hurt while fleeing the blast. Residents of the border town said the rockets shattered windows in dozens of flats. At least two cars were destroyed. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin told parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee the situation on the northern border was deteriorating, an official at the meeting said. "Hizbollah is still refraining from initiating Katyusha attacks against Israeli targets, but they have a quicker hand on the trigger in launching Katyushas as a result of our actions north of the security zone," Mr. Rabin was quoted as saying.

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J.N. extends deadline for Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — The United Nations Security Council has approved a Jordanian request to extend the deadline given to Jordanians affected by the Gulf crisis to apply for compensation until the beginning of October, according to Labour Minister Jaleel Eghazawi, who heads the higher committee of compensation for Gulf returnees.

Panel to study water problem

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Interior Salamah Hamad, who is also head of the Higher Public Safety Committee Monday decided to set up a committee to examine and inspect the problem of pollution and waste water leakage into valleys in the Amman area. The committee which will be headed by the Amman governor, and which will include representatives of the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Water, the Royal Scientific Society (RSS), and the director of the Amman Municipality, was asked to submit reports on these problems to Mr. Hamad as soon as possible.

Kabul ceasefire monitors give up

TUBAL (AFP) — The ceasefire monitoring commission set up in northern Kabul to help preserve the fragile peace in the Afghan capital has been dissolved due to continued violations of the truce, a commission member said Monday. "The ceasefire commission finished on Saturday because of the daily shelling of the capital," General Muslim said.

League stand on boycott unchanged

ABU DHABI (R) — The Arab League boycott of Israel remains unchanged even though some member countries have relaxed restrictions, a league official said Monday. Arab League Assistant Secretary General for Economic Affairs, Yusuf Nimatallah said its stance depended on a peace settlement between the Arabs and Israel. "As far as the league is concerned there is no change. The Arab League has no teeth to bite anyone. They (member states) are sovereign and do things on their own," he told reporters.

Juke, duchess of York formally separate

LONDON (R) — Britain's duke and duchess of York, Queen Elizabeth's second son Prince Andrew and the flame-haired Sarah Ferguson, formally separated Monday. A Buckingham Palace spokesman said the estranged couple, two of the royal house of Windsor's most conspicuous socialites, had completed discussions with lawyers on all details of the arrangements would be made public.

Release of jailed Britons now stalled

LONDON (AP) — Britain's support for the American missile attack on Baghdad has set back efforts to release three Britons held in Iraq, an Iraqi diplomat said Monday. Zaid Haider, Iraq's ambassador to the European Community, said there were "many positive and good signs" in negotiations to release three British citizens held in Iraq since they were convicted of illegally entering the country. "But now, after this hatred feeling, among the Iraqi population I think no one can talk about this," Mr. Haider told Independent Television news.

Bosnian army has chemical weapons

AGREE (AFP) — The mainly Muslim Bosnian army is in possession of 23 chemical bombs, the daily Vjesnik reported Monday citing Bosnian military and intelligence sources. The newspaper said the bombs were set off a lot of weapons stolen several years ago from a Albanian army depot and transported to Bosnia via Syria by a Turkish humanitarian organization. Five unidentified chemical weapons experts accompanied the bombs and are currently stationed at the Dubrava airport near the northeastern Muslim enclave of Tuzla.

Iraq, U.S. exchange threats

Baghdad vows to avenge missile strike; Clinton says Iraqi intelligence ability seriously crippled

Combined Agency dispatches

IRAQ ON MONDAY pledged to avenge a U.S. missile attack against Baghdad, and Washington cautioned that it would respond in kind, fuelling fears the turbulent region was headed for a new military showdown.

For Iraq, Sunday's pre-dawn attack against the intelligence headquarters ended any hope of improving relations with the Clinton administration.

But it apparently served to boost President Saddam Hussein's popularity as Iraqis took to the streets to denounce President

Bill Clinton.

Islamic nations questioned the U.S. resolve to punish Iraq, while the West has done little to help outgunned Bosnian Muslims in their fight against Serbs.

Mr. Clinton ordered the attack in retaliation for an alleged plot to murder President George Bush while on a visit to Kuwait in April (See page 10).

He said Monday the strike crippled Iraq's intelligence capacity and sent a message worldwide of American resolve to combat terrorism.

Meeting with his cabinet, Mr. Clinton said, "The action I took,

I thought, was clearly warranted by the facts. The United States will do what it can to combat terrorism. It is plainly what we ought to be doing."

The president told reporters he received a report from National Security Adviser Anthony Lake "confirming that we did in fact cripple the Iraqi intelligence capacity, which was the intent of the action."

Iraq says eight people were killed when some of the 23 Tomahawk missiles fired by the U.S. Navy hit residential areas near the intelligence compound.

The state-run Iraqi News

Agency quoted Iraq's intelligence chief, General Sabir Abdul Aziz Al Douri, as telling President Saddam in a letter he would not allow the attack to go unpunished.

"The aggressors returned to their evil and blind hatred," the agency quoted Gen. Douri as saying Sunday. "Cursed be what they are doing. We will pursue anyone who dares to attack our dear Iraq and severely punish these evil insects."

"The damage inflicted on the headquarters of our service in this vile crime is a source of pride for us," Gen. Douri said.

According to the Pentagon, Sunday's pre-dawn Tomahawk missile strike launched from U.S. warships totally destroyed the top two floors of the intelligence compound.

At least four of the cruise missiles were shot down by anti-aircraft defences, the Iraqi News Agency said.

Iraqi Vice-President Izzat Ibrahim, in a statement carried by news agency, said the "U.S. aggression... constitutes the highest degree of international terrorism, violence and arrogance."

U.S. Vice-President Al Gore warned Iraq that the United States was ready to hit again.

"It would be unwise for Saddam to retaliate in any capacity because that would receive a response," Mr. Gore said on the U.S. television talk shows.

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Iraqi women mourn the victims of Sunday's American missile attack on Baghdad (AFP photo)

U.S. steps up role as peace talks resume

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has stepped up its role in the Arab-Israeli peace talks in a bid to see progress as the current session entered its final week Monday.

Dennis Ross, the special U.S. coordinator for the talks, is expected to travel to the Middle East in July to prepare the next round of talks, which have yet to bring any tangible results, an Israeli delegation member said.

Mr. Ross has concentrated a lot of his energy on the Palestinian-Israeli talks, whose lack of progress is holding back the rest of the negotiations, said sources close to the Arab delegations.

Israel is also holding bilateral talks with Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

The United States is expected to present this week a new draft declaration of principles for the Palestinian-Israeli talks, laying down the broad lines of Palestinian autonomy in the occupied territories, after the two sides proved unable to agree on a joint document.

State Department officials met

with both sides over the weekend to discuss the problem, said members of the Israeli and Palestinian delegations.

Elyakim Rubinstein, head of the Israeli team negotiating with the Palestinians, telephoned the Palestinian chief negotiator, Faisal Husseini, to ask him to speed up the negotiations on a declaration of common principles.

He also asked him to respond to Israel's proposal of an accelerated transfer of power for some public services in the occupied territories.

Palestinian delegation spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi said the Palestinians would tell Israel this week "why their proposal is not applicable," but refused to say if it meant an outright refusal.

Israelis have proposed giving the Palestinians responsibility in the occupied territories for education, health, tourism, employment, social services and roads.

The Palestinians say they are only interested in a global agreement for an elected autonomous authority in the occupied territories

and East Jerusalem (see separate story).

Mr. Rubinstein also called his Palestinian counterpart, Haider Abdul Shafi, to ask about his health. Dr. Abdul Shafi underwent an eye operation last week.

Israelis and Syrians were meeting Monday after two weeks without progress in an attempt to break their deadlocked talks. The Syrians continue to demand a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Golan Heights in exchange for peace, while Israel wants Syria first to spell out exactly what it means by peace.

Israel said Sunday it was proposing a stage-by-stage end to the conflict with Syria.

Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, reporting on his government's first year in office, admitted he had been unrealistic to forecast an early peace breakthrough but said Israel had not despaired.

"The government presented Syria with proposals based on a gradual process of ending the state of war and gradually instilling peace," Mr. Rabin said in a 143-page report.

"The Syrian side is presently

maintaining a line which calls for "everything in exchange for everything," the report said.

The report did not elaborate on Israel's proposals.

Israelis meeting with Lebanese negotiators were expected to tackle again the security question after rockets fired from Lebanon into northern Israel early Monday wounded six people.

The tenth round of Middle East peace talks began June 15 and will end Thursday.

In Cairo, Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat Monday urged Washington to be "a fair broker" in peace negotiations and appealed personally to Mr. Rabin to advance the peace process.

"I reiterate my call to the Israeli leadership and to Mr. Rabin personally to show the needed courage and political far-sightedness to make just and honorable peace, the peace of the brave which will safeguard for our and their children their rights to a dignified free life away from violence and terror," Mr. Arafat said in an address to the summit of the Organisation of African Unity in Cairo.

Rabin: Israel will not budge on Jerusalem

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin firmly rejected Monday Palestinian demands to include Jerusalem in an agreement giving them self-government in the occupied territories.

"Jerusalem will remain a city united under Israel's sovereignty and our capital forever," he told hundreds of Jewish supporters from all over the world meeting in the Holy City.

"Therefore it will not be included in the interim self-government arrangement for the Palestinians. It's part of Israel — it is so, it will remain so," Mr. Rabin said hours before the resumption of peace talks in Washington.

Palestinians, alarmed by Israel's move three months ago to cut off Palestinian access to Arab East Jerusalem, have been pressing at the talks for any agreement to include the city that is their main cultural and economic centre.

Israel and the Palestinians have in 20 months of talks failed to reach an accord for a five-year period of interim self-rule in the

occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The two sides agreed to work on a joint declaration of principles but Palestinians have ruled out any accord that excludes East Jerusalem.

Israel insists that East Jerusalem is part of its "capital."

The United States, chief broker in the talks, which also include Jordan, Lebanon and Syria, has been working on a bridging proposal.

However, an official at an Israeli parliamentary committee meeting quoted Mr. Rabin as saying on Monday: "No paper has been presented before us. A statement by the Americans on their position does not obligate us."

The Jerusalem Post daily quoted a senior Israeli source as saying Mr. Rabin would not object to a statement that either side is free to bring up any issue during final status talks. However, Israel objects to having specific issues, such as Jerusalem, mentioned in any document now, the source was quoted as saying.

Newest member challenges OAU leaders to action

CAIRO (Agencies) — Just minutes after Eritrea was welcomed Monday as the Organisation of African Unity's (OAU) newest member, the president of the tiny nation rose and gave his peers a tongue-lashing.

Eritrean President Isaias Afewerki told the opening session of the OAU's annual meeting that the organisation did nothing to help his people's three-decade struggle for independence and was failing to deal with the continent's poverty and wars.

"Although the OAU has often championed the lofty ideals of unity, cooperation, economic development, human rights and other worthy objectives, it has failed to seriously work for their concrete realisation," Mr. Afewerki told a stunned audience.

He added: "We must put our act together if this continent is to be relieved from the multiple problems that have evolved for decades."

Eritrea's appeal was echoed by Nelson Mandela, leader of the African National Congress fighting to end apartheid in South Africa.

He urged a "new offensive" to end the scenario "that we shall forever be in debt to the developed world, that we shall forever provide pitiful pictures of the starving poor for the television networks... that we shall forever engage in destructive wars."

The meeting, held in Cairo's plush international conference hall in suburban Nasr City, is being attended by 37 heads of state. Hundreds of Egyptian security police ringed the complex, and helicopters hovered overhead.

The harsh words from the Eritrean leader contrasted with the opening address by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who was voted in as the new OAU chairman.

Mr. Mubarak praised the organisation for fighting Africa's increasing economic marginalisation and struggling to throw off "the last shackles of colonialism" in South Africa.

Long derided by its detractors as an empty talking shop, the OAU, celebrating its 30th anniversary this year, is trying to strengthen its peacekeeping role in the poorest continent.



Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor are received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, upon their return home Monday (Petra photo)

King, Queen return home after official visit to U.S.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor returned to Amman Monday afternoon following an official visit to the United States at the invitation of President Bill Clinton and medical check-ups which showed the King was enjoying excellent health.

During the visit King Hussein held formal talks with Mr. Clinton on issues of mutual concern and bilateral relations as well as regional issues.

The King also had meetings with Secretary of State Warren Christopher and Defence Secretary Les Aspin as well as speakers of the Senate and House of representatives and house members, including chairmen and members of the foreign affairs and foreign appropriations committees.

Discussions focused on means of promoting Jordanian-U.S. cooperation, particularly in economy and regional and interna-

tional matters including the Palestine problem and the situation in the Bosnia-Herzegovina. The two sides underlined the need for total commitment of nations towards defending human rights and enhancing democracy and pluralism.

They discussed the Arab-Israeli peace process and stressed the need for helping the two sides to get on with their discussions to attain further progress and achieve a just, durable and comprehensive peace.

King Hussein met with the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations to the peace talks and heads of Arab diplomatic missions in the American capital.

Later, the King met with the World Bank president and his deputy for Europe and the Middle East and the executive president of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In these meetings the King stressed the need for international cooperation towards comprehensive development, noting that the social dimension was the basis for comprehensive development plans.

King Hussein also reiterated Jordan's determination to pursue the economic reform programme with a view to attaining self-reliance to be achieved through cooperation with the world community and in a manner that would ensure higher living standard for the Jordanian people.

King Hussein met with representatives of American newspapers and magazines with whom he conducted a comprehensive dialogue on Jordanian-American relations and the general Arab situation.

He also delivered an address at the Brookings Institution in Washington, stressing his view

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Fresh violence in Mogadishu

MOGADISHU (AP) — U.S. helicopter gunships opened fire on a Somali crowd Monday, killing at least two Somalis, after a sniper shot and killed a Pakistani soldier.

The U.N. military spokesman, Major David Stockwell, said Pakistani troops had been searching for weapons in a building when they came under sniper fire. One soldier died and two others were wounded, he said.

U.S. troops called to provide air cover fired machineguns into an armed crowd, killing two Somalis, Maj. Stockwell said.

The fighting, the latest in a string of clashes following the U.N.'s assault on warlord Mohammed Farrah Aidede, continued as darkness fell.

It was the second shooting in two days along 21 October Road, a desolate stretch of abandoned warehouses and factories where the Pakistani contingent of U.N. forces has its headquarters.

Aidede supporters blame the United States and Pakistan for the deaths of several civilians since June 5, when 24 Pakistani soldiers died in gunbattles and the United Nations began a series of attacks on Aidede targets.

On Sunday, two American soldiers and a Pakistani were shot and wounded on 21 October Road. They remain hospitalised. Gen. Aidede remains at large, despite a U.N. order to arrest him.

Local people at the scene of Monday's fighting said by mid-afternoon four Somalis and a second Pakistani soldier had been killed.

An American soldier told AFP he was with a Pakistani unit carrying out a search for weapons at a garage belonging to Aidede lieutenant Osman Ato when they were fired on.

"The fire was intense and we took three casualties and had to pull out under covering fire from Cobra helicopters," said the soldier, who requested anonymity.

U.N. special representative Jonathan Howe told AFP in an interview earlier Monday that the U.N. would soon launch a major new drive to disarm the militias in Mogadishu (see page 10).

JPA demands strict press law application

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan Press Association (JPA) is demanding that the Ministry of Information and the Press and Publications Department enforce the provisions of the press and Publications law of 1993.

A statement issued after JPA council meeting Monday said that the association was seeking to put "an end to excesses and infringements by non-JPA members on the journalism profession in Jordan."

"The JPA will ask that no licence should be issued to any foreign news agency if its local chief editor is not a full-fledged Jordanian journalist," the statement said. The JPA is demanding that foreign news agencies operating in Jordan should adapt to and abide by the provisions of the law," it said.

The JPA is also asking that the ministry and the Press and Publications Department refrain from accrediting Arab nationals to practise as journalists in the Kingdom without the approval of the JPA council.

The statement stressed that all press institutions and newspapers in Jordan should remain committed to and show respect for articles 15 and 18 of the JPA law whereby no person can be

allowed to practise journalism unless he or she joins the JPA as practising member in accordance with the JPA law, with the exception of those undergoing training in the profession.

The statement said that press institutions and newspapers will be asked to abide by the terms of the law and employ only JPA members as their staff. Newspapers should not issue press cards for their employees since the issuance of such cards is the sole prerogative of the JPA.

The council is also demanding that no person should be allowed to write for any newspaper unless he or she is registered with the JPA.

It said that the JPA will ask the passports Department not to list profession in passport as journalist unless the bearer is a JPA member in accordance with article 20 of the law.

Violators of this article, according to the law, will be subject to JD 200-JD 500 fine and/or imprisonment of seven days to two months. The punishment could be doubled should the violation recur.

The statement said the JPA would pursue all means and take all legal measures against violators of the law.

Jordan Iron Company elects board, Badran as chairman

AMMAN — The General Assembly of the Jordan Iron Company held an ordinary meeting Sunday and elected its first board.

The board includes Mudar Badran, Tawfiq Fakhouri, Mahdi Saifi, Nizar Jandaneh, Zuhair Khouri (who represents the Housing Bank), Jawad Hadid, Mohammad Al Amad, Odeh Khouri, Ali Karim, Imad Badran and Khaled Dahleh.

The board, which met at the Amman Chamber of Industry, later elected Mr. Badran as chairman and Mr. Mahdi Al Saifi as deputy chairman.

The company's overall capital is JD 15 million (nearly \$22 million).



Mudar Badran

Iran fears it next U.S. target — diplomats

DUBAI (R) — Iran's fiercely critical reaction to the U.S. missile strike on its traditional enemy Iraq reflects growing apprehension in Tehran that the Clinton administration may use similar tactics against it, diplomats said Monday.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry said on Sunday the United States had violated the U.N. Charter and "international law recognised by civilised nations."

It said the U.S. attack on Baghdad in retaliation for an alleged Iraqi plot to kill former U.S. president George Bush "would only result in promoting a culture of violence and state terrorism."

The quick and harsh reaction did not come as a surprise to diplomats in Tehran.

They said Iranian leaders were smarting from a new U.S. policy of "dual-containment" that regards Iranian hostility towards Washington as equal to that of Iraq.

Iran viewed the policy as a virtual declaration of war although Clinton aide Martin Indyk, outlining the new approach in a speech on May 18, insisted the United States was not seeking a confrontation with the Islamic republic.

The diplomats said military action against Tehran did not look likely but Iranian leaders were growing increasingly worried and fear the precedent set by the latest U.S. strike on Baghdad.

"They fear they may be next," one diplomat said.

Some of Washington's Western allies have not shown enthusiasm for the new policy of outright hostility towards Tehran. But diplomats said the allies were expected to come under pressure to endorse it at the Group of Seven summit in Tokyo on July 7.

Iranian officials have warned privately it may bring Iran and

Iraq closer and drive them to seek alternative alliances. They spoke of possible ties with Russian hardliners who hanker after the superpower status of the former Soviet Union.

Mr. Indyk, who was brought in by President Bill Clinton as senior director for Near East and South Asian affairs at the policy-making National Security Council, said the administration viewed Iran and Iraq as equally abhorrent.

He said it would not return to previous U.S. policies that played one against the other — as when Washington sympathised with Iraq during the 1980-88 Iran-Iraq war.

Washington has been at odds with Tehran ever since the 1979 occupation by radical students of the U.S. embassy in Tehran when more than 50 Americans were taken of supporting terrorism.

But the end of the Iran-Iraq war and Tehran's opposition to Baghdad during the 1991 Gulf war over Kuwait brought renewed hopes in Iran for an easing of relations with Washington.

Those hopes were dashed by the hostility of the new U.S. administration which already suspects Tehran is breaking U.N. sanctions by helping Iraq sell some of its embargoed oil.

Tehran has denied the charge and Western diplomats said that although no evidence has been produced, Washington was apparently convinced that cooperation already exists between Iran and Iraq.

Tehran strongly opposed Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait and imposed scores of Iraqi warplanes that sought refuge in Iran from the U.S.-led alliance that drove Baghdad's occupation army out of Kuwait. But it also opposed U.S. involvement in the war.

Iraqis rail against U.S., fear more attacks

By Jane Arraf
Reuters

BAGHDAD — Baghdad residents railed against the United States Monday over the missile strikes that killed at least 55 civilians and dashed any hope of reconciliation with Washington.

"As soon as we heard the explosion we knew it was the Americans," said a 16-year-old girl, standing amid the debris of a ruined house.

"We could hear someone screaming but police said there was nothing we could do," she said. "I will never go to America — I can't even stand the thought of it."

Tomahawk cruise missiles fired from U.S. warships in the Gulf and Red Sea hit Iraq's intelligence service headquarters and nearby houses early on Sunday.

The United States said the attack was in retaliation for an alleged plot to assassinate former President George Bush in Kuwait in April.

Parts of the complex were damaged but U.S. officials have conceded that three missiles were wide of the mark and caused civilian casualties.

Six people were buried Sunday night in a funeral ceremony where hundreds of enraged mourners chanted vows of vengeance against President Bill Clinton.

On Monday children scrambled around the rubble littering a huge crater at the house where artist Leila Al Attar, her husband a housekeeper were killed.

The artist was staying at the house, owned by her sister, while her own home was being renovated after being damaged in a strike during the Gulf war.

"Why do they do this to us," wailed a neighbour.

On the pavement on Princess Street in the smart Al Mansour

neighbourhood, there were pools of congealed blood from sheep sacrificed by luckier neighbours in thanks for their survival.

A few kilometres away, the tops of two tall buildings partially destroyed in the attack could be seen behind the walls of the intelligence headquarters. Journalists have not been allowed to survey the damage within the compound.

Security in main areas of Baghdad appeared tighter, with more checkpoints set up and more Republican Guardsmen on the streets.

Iraq has dismissed the plot allegation as a fabrication and called the missile attack "cowardly." It claimed a victory in shooting down four of the missiles.

A group of army officers in Mansour displayed the remnants of one. The three-metre long missile was in shreds, with only circuit boards and a Canadian marking on one of the components intact.

"This talk about Bush was just an excuse to attack us again," said one officer. "We can't trust the Americans, they could strike us at any time for no reason," he said.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had been hoping for improved relations with Washington when Mr. Clinton succeeded Mr. Bush, leader of the Gulf war allies, in January.

Baghdad is balking at United Nations sanctions imposed after its August 1990 invasion of Kuwait and at the terms laid down after its defeat in the subsequent Gulf war.

Its reluctance to comply fully with U.N. experts charged with destroying its weapons of mass destruction now raised the spectre of further military action in light of Sunday's strike, Western military analysts in the region said.

Kuwait alone in Gulf backing U.S. strike

DUBAI (R) — Kuwait, still indignant at the Iraqi invasion of 1990, is so far alone among Gulf Arab states in applauding the U.S. missile strike on Baghdad that has caused unease among some of Washington's allies in the oil-rich area.

Officials have kept quiet and regional media have refrained from commenting on the U.S. attack on intelligence headquarters in Baghdad in retaliation for an alleged Iraqi plot to kill former President George Bush during a trip to Kuwait last April.

State-directed media in Saudi Arabia focused on the factual, highlighting allied support for the strike ordered by U.S. President Bill Clinton.

Al Riyadh daily headlined a French statement that the strike was justified. "American strike on Baghdad gets international backing," said the headline in Al Madina.

But others elsewhere, while equally factual, focused on the negative in what diplomats said was probably a better reflection of worries among Gulf states that the Arab man in the street would have serious misgivings about the strike.

"Six civilians killed in U.S. attack," screamed a banner headline in Dubai's English-language Gulf News.

"Arab League critical, Egypt cites Bosnia," said the Sharjah daily Al Khaleej, referring to Cairo's call on Washington to deal with the Bosnian Serbs as firmly it had done with Iraq.

The Dubai government daily Al Bayan carried on its front page a news agency report of a television survey that showed that 58 per cent of Americans were not convinced by the Clinton administration's reasons for the strike.

The diplomats said that although most Gulf Arabs share the Kuwaitis' hatred for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, many would echo Egypt's comments about double standards.

But Gulf governments, who worked closely with the Bush team, remain uncertain of the degree of support they enjoy in the new Clinton administration and were unlikely to make any comments that could rock the new relationship.

Most Kuwaiti newspapers carried no editorial comment about Saturday's strike.

Of the three which did, Al Anba was the most supportive, saying the strike sent a message to "the Iraqi tyrant" to abide by U.N. Security Council resolutions.

"Did the message get through?" it asked. "President Bill Clinton sent his missile message to bring the tyrant who flouts international law to his senses."

The resolutions require Iraq to agree to the U.N.-supervised dismantling of its weapons of mass destruction, recognise U.N. demarcation of its international border with Kuwait and to hand back any Kuwaiti and third country nationals it took captive during the occupation.

Al Rai Al Am was critical. It said: "Though we realise the objectivity of the motives which dictated the U.S. decision this time... this strike again stirs some objective questions about the selective method the U.S. adopts on international problems, especially explosive ones like that of Bosnia-Herzegovina."

"The silence which the American administration practices towards Serb crimes is part of an international conspiracy and a contribution to an ethnic crime which matches the crimes of the Iraqi regime and deserves the same punishment."

Many Arab states have expressed support for Bosnia's Muslims in the civil war in the former Yugoslav republic.



DETAINEES FREED: Two Palestinian fighters loyal to Fatah leader Yasser Arafat Monday guard some of the 54 prisoners, said to be from the rival Abu Nidal group, prior to their release. Fatah said it was unable to feed the detainees and hence their release. A few more remain in detention and some of them will be handed over to Syrian authorities, Fatah leaders said (AFP photo)

Kurds occupy Sydney U.N. building

SYDNEY (AP) — Police arrested Kurdish demonstrators after they occupied two buildings Monday in sit-ins protesting Turkey's treatment of its Kurdish minority.

Police said 25 demonstrators were arrested after occupying United Nations offices for about an hour in Sydney. At the same time another 30 Kurds staged a similar protest in the Victorian state parliament in Melbourne.

There were no arrests in Melbourne and no charges were immediately filed. All the protesters in Sydney were later released.

The demonstrations followed a series of attacks by Kurds against Turkish diplomats in Europe last week.

Sydney Police Superintendent Andy Holland said the New South Wales state police would

confer with federal authorities before deciding whether to file charges against the protesters.

Local media reports initially said the Sydney group took some U.N. staff members hostage.

However, police later denied this and said the occupation was non-violent. No weapons were involved.

Most U.N. staff returned to the office after being evacuated.

In Melbourne, police said protesters evaded security at the parliament building by posing as a tour group. Once inside they occupied the legislature's main chamber for an hour. They left when ordered by police.

A spokesman for the protesters, Ibrahim Aydi, called on the Australian government to investigate human rights abuses against Kurds in Turkey.

For nine years, Kurdish rebels have fought the Turkish government for an independent state in southeastern Turkey, home to about half of the country's 10 million Kurds.

Although Monday's protests were peaceful, there has been a history of security problems for Turkish diplomats in Australia.

In December 1989, Turkish Consul-General Sariaf Ariyak and his bodyguard were shot dead in their car in Sydney by two unidentified gunmen. Police believe the gunmen, who were never caught, were Armenians.

In November 1986, Turkey's consulate in Melbourne was damaged by a car bomb which killed the consul. A little known Greek-Bulgarian-Armenian group claimed responsibility, but again there were no arrests.

26 injured in blasts on Turkish coast

ANKARA (Agencies) — Twenty-six people including 12 foreign tourists were wounded in three explosions in the southern Turkish coastal town of Antalya, according to an updated toll announced Monday by town Governor Salim Cotur.

Two German tourists seriously injured in one of the three separate blasts Sunday night underwent operations early Monday, Mr. Cotur told the semi-official Anatolia news agency.

Earlier reports had put the toll at 23 and said no foreigners were among the seriously injured.

The remaining blast victims hospitalised here were not in a critical condition, Mr. Cotur added.

Antalya police blamed the

attacks on separatist militants from the Kurdish Labour Party (PKK), which issued an indirect denial Monday as anti-terrorist sources confirmed no one had yet claimed responsibility.

The German-based Kurdish news agency Kurd-Ha, a virtual mouthpiece for the PKK, blamed the attacks Monday on "obscure forces" in a communique received here by AFP.

The agency accused Turkish television of "trying to impose on the PKK" responsibility for the blasts but offered no details identifying the bombers while claiming only two explosions had occurred, injuring 13.

The three blasts occurred at intervals of five minutes starting at 9.30 p.m. (1830 GMT) in the

garden of a small hotel, the town's restaurant district, and next to two vehicles outside the Sheraton Antalya, Mr. Cotur said.

The first bomb was thrown into the garden of Letta Pension, a boarding house frequented by foreigners, at about 9.30 p.m.

The agency said all the casualties occurred in the boarding house.

About five minutes later, two cars near the Sheraton Hotel, the town's biggest, were heavily damaged by bombs. The agency did not report any casualties in the vehicles.

State-run television said police immediately tightened security in the resort, favoured mostly by German and British tourists.

AUB bomber given 10-year term

BEIRUT (AP) — A military tribunal has convicted a Shiite Muslim man of complicity in the 1991 bombing of the American University of Beirut (AUB), and commuted his death sentence to 10 years in prison at hard labour, judicial sources said Sunday.

The sources said the five-judge panel handed down its final verdict in a secret, no-jury trial session Saturday.

Jihad Khalil, 30, was arrested a few days after the Nov. 8, 1991 blast that wrecked college hall and the clock tower at the Middle East's most prestigious university. A Lebanese guard was killed in the pre-dawn blast.

The court found Khalil guilty of complicity in the bombing and the murder of his half-sister, Hayat Khalil, who drove the explosive-laden car to the AUB campus.

Two Lebanese Christians, Pierre Khoury and George Sarabieh, have been accused of masterminding the operation. They remain at large and it was not clear whether they would be tried in absentia.

The verdict, according to the sources, Khoury and Sarabieh promised Khalil and his sister \$500,000 in return for detonating the bomb at AUB. There was no mention of the motives behind the attack.

Two days after the bombing, Khalil and his sister met with suspected masterminds at a Beirut hotel. After an argument over the money, Khoury shot Hayat Khalil in the head with a silenced-equipped pistol, according to the verdict.

It said Khalil made no move to defend his sister. Instead, he carried her body in his car to the beach and dumped in the sea.

Two days later, the body was washed ashore and was discovered by police.

The judicial sources said Khoury and Sarabieh were believed to have fled Lebanon after the body was discovered and Khalil promptly arrested.

Beirut newspapers have linked Khoury and Sarabieh to the Israeli-affiliated South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia. The militia

helps police Israel's self-styled "security zone" in south Lebanon.

The AUB, which has given Middle East three presidents and 10 prime ministers, was the victim of several attacks during Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war.

One of its American presidents, David Dodge, was kidnapped by pro-Iranian extremists from the campus in 1982 and released a year later. Another president, Malcolm Kerr, was assassinated also on campus on Jan. 18, 1984.

Other faculty members, Westerners and Lebanese Christians, were kidnapped and held hostage by extremist factions during the 1975-90 civil war.

Three of those kidnapped — American Librarian Peter Kilburn, and British teachers Leigh Douglas and Dennis Hill — were killed in captivity in 1986.

Two other Americans, Thomas Agriculture, the former dean of agriculture, and comptroller Joseph Cicciopio, were released by their captors in 1990.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Turkey, S. Arabia refine seized Iraqi crude

NICOSIA (AFP) — Turkey and Saudi Arabia have started refining Iraqi crude stored on their territory since the Gulf crisis nearly three years ago, the Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) said Monday. The Nicosia-based newsletter, quoting industry sources, said Turkey had started refining part of the 5.2 million barrels of Iraqi crude in storage tanks at the Ceyhan terminal of the Iraqi-Turkey pipeline to the Mediterranean. Several million more barrels of crude remain in the 1,000-kilometre-long Turkish section of the pipeline system, it said. This crude belongs to Turkey under an accord between the two countries. It was unclear if Turkey would hand over the funds from the refined crude to the U.N. because it has several outstanding financial claims against Iraq.

Chinese vice-premier in Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — China's Vice-Premier Li Lanqing held talks in Bahrain Monday on ways of promoting industrial trade and investments between the two countries. The official Gulf News Agency (GNA) said Mr. Li, touring Gulf states to promote the already booming trade his country enjoys in the region, met the emir, Sheikh Isa Ben Salman Al Khalifa and some senior ministers. GNA said a Chinese-Bahraini economic cooperation committee agreed on the need to boost trade and that Bahrain "expressed the wish to export aluminium and petrochemicals to China."

Cholera, dysentery spread in Yemen

SANAA (R) — A Yemeni official warned Monday of the spread of cholera and dysentery in the country where a total of 6,847 cases have been reported since May. Health ministry official Yusef Abdul Waraq said three people have died of the diseases in towns south of the capital Sanaa.

Worker killed in Kuwait building collapse

KUWAIT (AP) — A telecommunications building damaged during Iraq's seven-month occupation of Kuwait collapsed Sunday, killing a worker and injuring six others, the Kuwait News Agency reported. The workers were clearing rubble from the high-rise building in Sabahiya, about 40 kilometres south of Kuwait City, when the structure collapsed, KUNA said. It did not provide the identity of the victims.

New swarms of locusts enter Yemen

SANAA (AP) — Agriculture ministry officials said Sunday new swarms of locusts have conquered eastern regions, coming from Saudi Arabia. The officials said the locusts were attacking grain fields in Wadi Al Jawf, north of Marib. Other swarms crossing across the Red Sea or from East Africa have already devastated citrus, grain and vegetable crops in the southern and southeastern regions of Wadi Beihan and Wadi Jennah, according to earlier statements by the ministry.

Algerians to mark Boudiaf killing

ALGIERS (R) — The government has ordered traffic to halt and work to stop for five minutes throughout Algeria Tuesday to mark the first anniversary of the assassination of President Mohammed Boudiaf. In a statement carried by the official news agency APS, the government called for one minute's silence and said radio and television would suspend programmes between 11:30 and 11:35 a.m. and play the national anthem. Mr. Boudiaf was shot dead in the eastern town of Annaba at that time as he was making a speech last June 29. His alleged killer, a member of his security guard, is in detention awaiting trial.

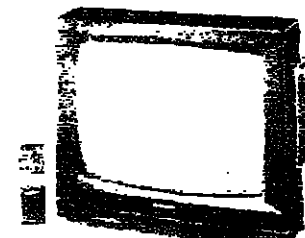
Security tightened at home of Schwarzkopf

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Authorities have beefed up security at the home of Gulf war commander Norman Schwarzkopf, who allegedly has received death threats, CNN television reported. Quoting unnamed administration sources, CNN said military personnel and local police had been deployed around the retired army general's residence in the Tampa, Florida area. Gen. Schwarzkopf, who was commander-in-chief of the allied forces in the Gulf war against Iraq, allegedly was warned "the Iraqis are out to get him," CNN reported.

First German Turk to run in city election

HAMBURG (R) — Social Democrats in Hamburg have chosen Germany's first Turkish candidate to run for office in local elections in September. Haluk Keskin, a 50-year-old education professor who became a German citizen only last February, will run for a seat in the city-state's local parliament on Sept. 19. Leaders of the 1.8-million strong Turkish minority have been urging Germany to allow them dual nationality and voting rights in local elections as a sign of support after a wave of racist violence that has killed eight Turks in seven months. The Social Democrats (SPD), who rule in Hamburg but make up the main opposition in the Bonn parliament, support this.

IMC Launches Emerson U.S.A. in Jordan



Established in 1985, International Markets Corp. (IMC) has been relaunched with a whole new set of brands and products. The marketing group, has promised to become a market leader with their newest Emerson U.S.A. Electronics introduction to the Jordanian market. Though new to the Jordanian consumer, the company itself has been a leader in America since 1912. Emerson is an \$800 million publicly held company listed on the NY Stock Exchange.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

18:30 Omniscience
18:30 Comedy Series
19:00 News in French
19:15 Ushuaia
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Beadies About
21:10 False Arrest
22:00 News in English
22:30 Feature Film: "Rising Son"

PRAYER TIMES

03:53 Fajr
05:28 Sunrise/Duha
12:39 Dhuhur
16:19 'Asr
18:50 Maghreb
21:25 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweileh, Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 62785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 62490
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 61757
Terrence Church Tel. 62266
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 62541

Anglican Church Tel. 60851, Tel. 628543

Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Assam International Church Tel. 625236
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 824328
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 62324, 64932
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691
Church of the Redeemer — Tel. 638526

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Normal summer weather will prevail and winds will be northwesterly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min./Max. temp.

Aqaba 18 / 31
Amman 25 / 39
Dahran 17 / 32
Jordan Valley 22 / 37

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 30, Aqaba 38. Humidity readings: Amman 37 per cent, Aqaba 25 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDER

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
NIGHT DUTY	
AMMAN:	
Dr. Mukhlis Halasa	819220
Dr. Mohamed Imran	612232
Dr. Jamal Al Jabari	786460
Dr. Mohammad Al Ghoul	790730
Fires pharmacy	661912
Fordows pharmacy	778336
Al Asma pharmacy	637055
Nairokh pharmacy	626762
Al Salem pharmacy	636730
Yacoub pharmacy	644945
Shmeizani pharmacy	637660
Naroukh pharmacy	623672
Najib pharmacy	847632
IRBID:	
Dr. Mohammad Al Hish	(—)
Alquds pharmacy	(—)
ZARQA:	
Dr. Rajch Sager	(—)
Khalil pharmacy	985417
EMERGENCIES	
Food Control Centre	637111
Civil Defence Department	661111
Civil Defence Immediate	630341
Rescue	630341
Civil Defence Emergency	630341
Rescue Police	192, 61111, 637777
Fire Brigade	801228
HOSPITALS	
AMMAN:	
Husseini Medical Centre	81381332
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn.	6452816
Alkikh Maternity, J. Amn.	624412
Jabal Amman Maternity	642362
Malha, J. Amman	636140
Palestine, Shmeizani	66417114
Shmeizani Hospital	669131
University Hospital	645045
Al-Muasher Hospital	6672279
The Islamic, Abdali	66612737
Al-Ahli, Abdali	6641646
Rafat, Al-Muhasref	7771013
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh	7511168
Army, Marka	8916118
Queen Alia Hospital	666100
Amal Hospital	674155
Radio Jordan	
Water Authority	680100
Jordan Electricity Authority	815615
Electric Power Company	636381
RJ Flight Information	08-53200
Queen Alia Int. Airport	08-53200
FOR THE TRAVELLER	
QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (00)33205, where it should always be verified.	
ARRIVALS	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
06:00	Jakarta, Kuala Lumpur (RJ)
06:30	Damascus (RJ)
06:30	Dhahran (RJ)
10:00	Aqaba (RJ)
10:00	Muscat, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:30	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
11:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
17:30	London (RJ)
17:45	Frankfurt (RJ)
18:30	Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ)
20:40	Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
12:15	Larnaca, Vienna (OS)
14:15	Paris, Brussels (RJ)
15:30	Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
17:45	Riyadh (RJ)
18:30	Dubai (AZ)
01:00	Bucharest (RO)
DEPARTURES	
Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)	
07:30	Aqaba (RJ)
07:30	Damascus (RJ)
07:30	Dhahran (RJ)
10:00	Aqaba (RJ)
10:00	Muscat, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
10:30	Karachi, Dubai (RJ)
11:00	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
17:30	London (RJ)
17:45	Frankfurt (RJ)
18:30	Chicago, Amsterdam (RJ)
20:40	Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)	
12:15	Larnaca, Vienna (OS)
14:15	Paris, Brussels (RJ)
15:30	Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
17:45	Riyadh (RJ)
18:30	Dubai (AZ)
01:00	Bucharest (RO)



Her Royal Highness Princess Basma Monday chairs a seminar on women and parliamentary elections, organised by the Business and Professional Women's Club (Petra photo)

Efforts to nominate women candidates should be pooled, says Al Masri

AMMAN (Petra) — Women's efforts should be pooled through continuous meetings to reach a consensus on nominating candidates to run in the next elections, expected later this year, said Lower House Deputy Taher Al Masri Monday.

At a one-day seminar entitled "Women and Parliamentary Elections," organised by the Business and Professional Women's Club (BPWC) and held under the chairmanship of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, Mr. Masri outlined Jordanian women's experiences during the last parliamentary elections in which they failed to be elected. Discussions that followed the

opening speeches at the seminar revealed differing views on the issue of assigning seats for women in the next Parliament.

But speakers were unanimous that women should be represented in Parliament so that they can defend women's rights.

Participants, including Janet Mufti and Huda Fakhouri reviewed their own experiences when they ran as candidates in the 1989 parliamentary elections.

Hind Abdul Jaber, the BPWC president, outlined the topics on the agenda of the upcoming National Conference on Women, due to open in Amman Tuesday, and women's political activities.

Deputy resigns from party, 24 members follow suit

By Mariam M. Shahin

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Deeb Marji, a Lower House of Parliament deputy from Irbid district unexpectedly resigned as a member of the Jordanian Democratic Popular Unity Party (JDPUP) this week in what political observers see as yet another schism among left-wing political parties in the Kingdom.

Described as an "amicable split," Dr. Marji's resignation came after more than two years of differences with his fellow members, party insiders said Monday.

Dr. Marji's more "liberal" views had clashed with those of more hard-line Marxist members of the party. As the only member of the JDPUP to win a seat in Parliament in the November 1989 elections, Dr. Marji, 43, was said by party members to have received "no special treatment" from the party after winning that election.

"It caused some resentment on his part because he expected to get the party leadership or something close to it," said one party member who thinks that lack of promotion was among several reasons behind Dr. Marji's fall out with the party.

Although neither the JDPUP Secretary General Azmi Khawaja nor Dr. Marji have made significant statements about the apparent split among their ranks to the press, the party's platform as well as internal hierarchy appear to be the issues surrounding the fall out.

Last Saturday, 24 members of the JDPUP — Irbid branch advertised in Jordanian dailies that they are resigning from the party in solidarity with Dr. Marji.

JDPUP secretary general, had no comment on the resignations except: "I believe these are young people who are looking for the right answers." Mr. Khawaja said the party will issue a clarification statement, possibly today.

"I think most of the 24 young people will change their minds and return to the party's ranks," Mr. Khawaja added.

Dr. Marji, who unlike most JDPUP members, supports the U.S. brokered Middle East peace talks, is thought by many party members to have changed too much in his positions to be acceptable to the parties decidedly staunch stand against the peace talks. Some independent stands on political issues related to the Jordan's role in the peace talks, the economy and the party's participation in the government have also caused a row in the party ranks.

If the party splits, it would be the third in a series of break-ups suffered by long established leftist parties in Jordan.

In 1990 the Jordanian off-springs of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), split to become the Jordanian Democratic People's Party and the Jordanian Democratic Progressive Party.

Last year the oldest operative leftist party in the Kingdom, the Jordanian Communist Party broke into the Jordanian Communist Party and the Jordanian Democratic Socialist Party.

The Freedom Party became a third Communist Party earlier this year.

The break-up of the JDPUP, expected before the end of the week, will not be unusual but it will add to the split of the left-wing vote just four months before Jordan holds its second legislative election in over two decades.

"The timing of this is really bad," said a political observer close to the JDPUP. "If they are going to split they should have split last year but not four months before election time," said the source on condition of anonymity.

The JDPUP officially came into being as a political group in May 1990 and was granted legal party status early this year along with four other left-wing parties.

Parliament condemns U.S. attack on Iraq

AMMAN (Petra) — The Upper and Lower House of Parliament Monday voiced their condemnation of the U.S. missile attack on Baghdad which resulted in killing and wounding Iraqi civilians.

The senate expressed astonishment at the American attack on Iraq and deplores the actions of "the biggest member among the United Nations against another member of the organisation, flagrantly violating the U.N. Charter, international legitimacy and Security Council rules," in a statement issued by the Upper House of Parliament's permanent Bureau.

Coming at this critical stage, the statement said, the aggression on Iraq constituted an outrageous violation of the charter of the United Nations and exposed the double standards attitude adopted by the U.S. administration vis-a-vis other issues like the continued Israeli aggression on the Palestinian people under occupation and the genocide practised daily against the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Such practices and double standards dealing in international issues can only negatively affect world stability and the peace and security of the region and would create bitterness in the hearts of the Arab masses and the oppressed peoples of the world, continued the statement.

It said that such measures can endanger human rights and deepen fear and hatred among nations, something which would lead to the loss of hope," it added.

The statement urged Arab countries to end their differences and exert efforts to safeguard their future.

In a separate statement, the Lower House described the U.S. raid on Baghdad as brutal and based on feeble pretexts and allegations that never were proved about an action that was never executed.

The raid on Baghdad also was a reminder of the conspiratorial attitude of the United States and Europe against the Muslim people, preventing them from their right to self defence and acquisition of arms at a time when weapons of all kinds were being supplied to the other parties," the statement said.

It said the Lower House was also reminded of the continued Israeli aggression on the Palestinian people, Israel's killing of Palestinians and demolition of Arab homes and its expulsion of Palestinian citizens, "most importantly the U.S. backing of these Israeli aggressive policies and its shielding the Jewish state from any punishment."

The Arab people, particularly the Iraqi people, refuse to become the victim of policies and decisions taken for purely internal American considerations — policies and decisions intended to disassociate the Clinton administration from accusation of being weak and hesitant, said the statement.

It stressed that the attack would not have come had the Arabs been more steadfast.

The House called on the international community to condemn such acts and prevent their recurrence, said the statement. It said that the U.N. Security Council should not serve as a tool for the implementation of unjust and double standard policies, and urged Arab masses to take a brave and responsible stand in the face of injustice and aggression.



CABIN ATTENDANTS: Royal Jordanian (RJ) Monday graduated 31 new cabin attendants who successfully completed a six-week training course in air transport safety and services. The group comprised 20 Jordanian, eight Spanish, two British and one Norwegian attendants. RJ Chief Executive Officer Mahmood Jamal Balqas attended the ceremony to welcome the graduates to the RJ staff.



DHL introduces express heavyweight

DHL, as many companies in Jordan, are turning to air express to reduce costs and improve standards. DHL is investing \$60 million in its Middle East facilities over the next few years to meet the growing demand for these services. \$12 million will be spent this year. "All around the world there has been a dramatic upsurge in heavyweights shipped by air in recent years," said Mike Wood, DHL Middle East's sales development manager at a function held at the Marriott Hotel on June 27, 1993. "From a strategic viewpoint, time has emerged as the critical competitive weapon of the 1990s. Many companies are finding that by using expedited deliveries to cut lengthy supply chains, they can achieve significant cost reductions, while, at the same time improving the service to the customers." "In the past using conventional airfreight, it could take four weeks to transport, clear and deliver heavyweights, dutiable items," added Mr. Wood. "Paperwork problems make clearance in some Middle East markets even longer. DHL's Express Freight Service, however achieves a 7-day transit time between USA, Europe, Asia, and most Middle East countries, door-to-door." DHL's relations with the customs authorities enable paperwork for dutiable items to be processed while the goods are still in transit. Meanwhile, handling equipment for heavy shipments is being installed at DHL's depots around the region. Particular pride of place is the company's regional distribution centre in Bahrain, the building of which will be completed later this year at a cost of nearly \$9 million. This will form the hub of the company's Middle East distribution network, and offers nearby bonded storage space too. "Our traditional business of documents and small parcels is thriving, too," said Mike Wood. "But it will not be long before it will be as common to DHL a generator, replacement processor or even a tonne of finished goods, as it has been in the past to send a tender, life for laser disk." To support DHL's investment programme in its solution for heavyweight shipments, the company will be unveiling a "Guess the Weight" customer competition at the function. Prizes include TVs, video recorders and business class air tickets to London, Paris and Hong Kong.

Political activists stage protest denouncing U.S. raid on Baghdad

By Sausan Ghoshel
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A small group of Jordanian political activists Monday staged a demonstration and condemned the latest U.S. missile attack on Baghdad as "continuous aggression on the Arab and Islamic worlds."

The demonstration, which included representatives from the different political streams present in Jordan, denounced the attack, stressing that it is one of America's many actions to control the region.

"This tyrant country (the United States) is interfering in the internal affairs of our nation and is destroying our people," said Hammam Saad, a leader of the Muslim Brotherhood bloc in Parliament.

"America's attack on the Iraqi people is an attempt to eliminate all opposition to Washington's policies on Iraq, as well as all the Arabs and Muslims," he added in front of the Parliament House in downtown Amman.

Speakers at the demonstration, called for by The Alliance of Forces that Resist Surrendering, composed mainly of Baath Party members and the Muslim Brotherhood, implicitly criticised what they saw as anti-Iraq and pro-Western shift in Jordan's official stand.

"We have seen a shift in Jordan's policy towards Iraq... We object to this new policy and demand more solidarity with the Iraqi people," said Leith Shbeilat, a member of Parliament.

"Dr. Saad concurred. 'We warn you that friendly contacts with the United States will not improve the relations with your own people,' he said."



Protesting the U.S. attack on Baghdad demonstrators Monday end their action in front of the Iraqi embassy in Jabal Amman (photo by Aynsley Floyd)

dan's policy towards Iraq... We object to this new policy and demand more solidarity with the Iraqi people," said Leith Shbeilat, a member of Parliament.

"Dr. Saad concurred. 'We warn you that friendly contacts with the United States will not improve the relations with your own people,' he said."

The speakers, further, called on the Arab Nation to unite in the face of the "American enemy" and demanded the end of the sanctions against Iraq imposed as a result of Baghdad's August 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

"Our motto is lifting the sanctions imposed against Iraq... and we will continue to work till this is achieved," said Mr. Shbeilat.

Dr. Saad added that "Jordanians do not agree with any sanctions against Iraq whether from the Jordanian government or any other government."

The demonstration ended in front of the Iraqi Embassy, where participants were greeted by Nouri Al Weiss, Iraq's ambassador to Jordan.

Demonstrators took the opportunity of the ambassador's presence to voice their support for the Iraqi people. "Any aggression on Iraq is an aggression on all the Arab World," said Naji Aloush, a member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

"We will support Iraq till the last drop of our blood," he asserted.

Mr. Weiss, refusing to comment on the attack, said "Your Iraq will always remain steadfast and will not abandon its nation as it is sure that its nation will not abandon it."

The demonstration, attended by about one hundred activists, was described, by its organisers as a symbolic protest and that large scale demonstrations are planned for the near future.

The Parliament House was chosen as the point of gathering to symbolise the people, the organisers maintained.

Later protest actions will include parliamentarians as well as the public, they said.

Canada to mark national day in Jordan by planting trees

AMMAN (J.T.) — In an effort to promote awareness of the environment, the Canadian community in Jordan will celebrate Canada Day by planting trees in a Ministry of Agriculture Forest, according to a Canadian embassy statement Monday.

The Minister of Agriculture, Marwan Kamal, and the president of the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) Anis Muasher, will participate in the tree planting ceremony.

"Preservation of the environment is the responsibility of everyone," said Ambassador Andrew Robinson. "I hope that the concerted efforts of government, citizens and guests like ourselves, will contribute to the

greening of Jordan. This tree planting is meant to symbolise the importance of environmental conservation."

Sustainable development and protection of the environment are important parts of Canada's international cooperation strategy.

In this context, Canada is encouraging future development in Jordan that will embrace the concept of environmental protection and the wise use of scarce natural resources, the embassy statement said.

Over the last few years, Canada and Jordan have initiated several joint environment-related projects including grants to the Royal Scientific Society to study national air quality standards.



PETRA AWARD: Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Yassir Hikmat Monday presents Francis Keenan, General Manager of Amman Marriott Hotel, with the Petra Award in appreciation of his excellent services in support of the hotel and tourism industry in Jordan, where he was an active member of the Jordan Tourism Promotion Board. Mr. Keenan completed his assignment in Jordan and will be moving to Sri Lanka to head the Sri Lanka Marriott Hotel; five-star establishment of 500 rooms.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Kamal lauds German agricultural assistance

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Marwan Kamal Monday lauded the German government for its continued assistance to the Ministry of Agriculture and helping it in implementing its policies. Dr. Kamal voiced his confidence that the close cooperation between Jordan and Germany in the agricultural field will continue at the same pace in the future. Director of the Ministry's Afforestation Department Azzam Al Muhesin said equipment presented by the German government and estimated to be worth DM 500,000 will help the ministry in pruning trees and removing broken branches, in addition to being used in tackling the effects of fires which occur repeatedly in Jordan (which will contribute to forest management. Mr. Muhesin said a local team was trained on the equipment and machinery by a specialised German team. The training process was organised as part of the forest development project financed by the German Development Agency.

JUST Alumni club inaugurated

IRBID (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein Monday opened the Jordan University of Science and Technology (JUST) Alumni club in a ceremony attended by Irbid Governor Faysal Al Abbadi. Princess Haya toured the various sections of the club and opened exhibitions of Arabic calligraphy and cartoons, depicting campus life. The princess also attended a celebration held to honour the fifth batch of JUST graduates.

Grand Opening Today



Start packing your grandmother's precious china. Now, you can replace it with a fresh lively table set that will add a different ambiance to your meals. **un Jardin en plus**, the famed French name in the world of furniture, tableware and house accessories is now available in Amman for those with an artistic taste. Refreshingly daring colour schemes and designs that enrich your imagination. Also available are Maghrof silver items. Abdoon, Cairo Street.

un Jardin en plus

PARIS MADRID BARCELONA ROMA TOKYO BEIRUT LOS ANGELES AMMAN

Jordan Times

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Big question for big people

LIBYAN LEADER Muammar Qadhafi is about to complete a U-turn from where he stood in the 1970s and the 1980s. The revolutionary leader is making this move simply to please Western powers that not so long ago he viewed with suspicion as imperialists and enemies of his people, country and all of the Third World.

To improve his relations with the United Kingdom, Mr. Qadhafi last year revealed confidential information about his old allies, the Irish Republican Army. This week he pledged to surrender two of his people to the U.S. black activist Jesse Jackson who would arrange for their trial in the West for their alleged involvement in the bombing of a Pan Am jet over Lockerbie, Scotland. This was something Qadhafi only a few months ago vowed he would never do.

As Libya's conflict with the West continued and escalated through the 1980s, Mr. Qadhafi has been hopping back and forth between his decades-long revolutionary ideals and overtures to appease Washington and its Western allies in the hope of easing the tension.

The offer to hand over the suspects to Reverend Jackson is one of the many stunts Mr. Qadhafi has performed in his bid to return to the graces of the West. On Sunday, the Libyan leader sent one of his protocol cars to the Tunisian border to pick up Israeli peace activist Abbie Nathan who says he is in Libya to get Libyan concessions for Israel; also, quite unthinkable by the Libyan leader a few years, if not months, ago. And to top it all, U.S. President Bill Clinton has become "a bright star coming from the Western hemisphere, really clean, with no complexes," in the eyes of Mr. Qadhafi. It is not clear how bright Clinton remains to Qadhafi after he Sunday sent his Smart missiles to brighten the Iraqi skies. Mr. Clinton should learn a lesson from Mr. Qadhafi's change of heart: sanctions work, even when they are partially applied. What Qadhafi has yet to find out, along with many others in the world, is if succumbing to U.S. pressure works too.

The other pressing, indeed bewildering, question that remains is how the Libyan people, or for that matter any other people, should react when they feel that their future is subject to the whims of individuals and their countries' destiny hostage to the policies of leaders who place their own interests above those of the nation.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Monday expressed regret that U.N. Security Council member states rushed to express their support for the latest U.S. aggression on Iraq. The U.N. Security Council should have examined the situation and the American complaints about the alleged Iraqi conspiracy against the former U.S. president before approving Mr. Clinton's missile attack, said the daily. The United Nations ought to regain its natural and legitimate role of helping to settle international disputes rather than allow an aggression by one nation against another, said the daily. On the other hand, the aggression would not have taken place had the Arab countries been more united, added the daily. The situation in the Arab World is really distressing and sad as the Arab masses realise that their countries are bound to pay heavier prices unless they start joining their ranks and end their differences, said the daily. The Arabs should take note of the fact that President Clinton had consulted with the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin shortly before launching the missile attack, something which means that the Clinton administration seeks the blessing of the Jewish state and aims at satisfying its ambitious designs in the Middle East, cautioned the paper. The Arabs, said the paper, should study the latest American aggression on Iraq and should try to answer the following question: In light of these developments, are the Arabs convinced that they are following the path of a just and comprehensive peace which they have long sought?

A COLUMNIST in Al Dastour daily condemned the latest American missile raid on Baghdad as a flagrant aggression and a brutal act committed against the civilian population of Iraq. The attack was a disgusting act on the part of the American aggressors against innocent civilians who can by no means be held responsible for their government's decisions, said Mona Shugair. The writer said that Mr. Clinton's justification for the missile attack was illogical and can convince no one, especially as the trial of those involved in the alleged conspiracy on the life of the former U.S. president has not ended in Kuwait. Furthermore, no neutral observers are allowed to attend the court trial, a procedure which could prove whether the proceedings are fair or not, said the writer. One thing is sure: that Mr. Clinton launched this aggression in a desperate attempt to regain part of his fast fading popularity and in an attempt to convince the American public of his ability to handle matters on the domestic and external levels, charged the writer. She said that by turning his guns on Iraq, Mr. Clinton hopes to topple Saddam Hussein, but by so doing, he is in effect strengthening the Iraqi leader's position. The aggression, she added, can by no means enable the American president to improve his image in his own country.

The man behind U.S.'s Mideast approach

Martin Indyk

By John Law

WASHINGTON DC—The time has come to put a brighter spotlight on Martin Indyk. Even in Washington, not many people react instantly to his name, yet his power to influence events in the Middle East is both enormous and troubling.

Mr. Indyk's clout stems from the fact that he is the special assistant to the president for Near East and South Asia affairs, working within the National Security Council. His job is essentially to develop Middle East policy recommendations for the president to ponder.

What is troubling about Mr. Indyk's power is that he comes to it directly after ten years as an advocate of a staunchly pro-Israel political agenda: two years as the deputy director for research of the American Israeli Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) followed by eight years as the co-founder and executive director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, an AIPAC spin-off. While at the institute, which pretended to be a "think-tank," Mr. Indyk never disputed that it had what he called a "point of view". In 1990, he told a reporter that part of the institute's purpose was to "counter Arabist views" in Washington. Mr. Indyk was still at the institute when he was asked by the new Clinton administration to take his current job — an offer he accepted.

Little was heard from him by Middle East watchers until May 18, when he visited the institute to give a speech on Middle East policy. His remarks, although they revealed some new twists in official U.S. positions, went virtually ignored by the media. (One exception was the Washington Post, which five days later came out with an article, buried on page 26, which somehow managed to avoid mentioning Israel, which had been a principal focus on the speech.)

Mr. Indyk told the audience that the purpose of his talk was to "try to lay out for you the Clinton administration's approach to the Middle East". Not the Indyk approach, mind you, but the Clinton approach. It quickly became clear that Mr. Clinton had been quite ready to accept Mr. Indyk's advice (which in some circles did not cause any surprise), because the "Clinton administration's approach" appeared to have been based on the very perspective that supporters of AIPAC and the institute have traditionally held.

Countering Iraq...

Mr. Indyk's essential message was to outline the ways in which the Clinton administration would make sure that Israel's interests would not be threatened. The basic thrust of the strategy, as Mr. Indyk described, appears to rest on two foundations:

1. Israel must be kept strong, while "promotion of Arab-Israeli peace" continues.
2. Both Iraq and Iran are dangerous threats to Israel and others, and should be kept weak. Mr. Indyk referred to this policy as "dual containment." This marks a fundamental shift in U.S. policy.

Mr. Indyk said: "Dual containment" derives from an assessment that the current Iraqi and Iranian regimes are both hostile to American interests in the region. Accordingly, we do not accept the argument that we should continue the old balance of power game, building up one to balance the other... We reject it because we do not need it... The coalition that fought Saddam remains together. As long as we are able to maintain our military presence in the region; as long as we succeed in restricting

the military ambitions of both Iraq and Iran; and as long as we can rely on our regional allies — Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia and the GCC, and Turkey — to preserve the balance of power in the favour in the wider Middle East region, we will have the means to counter both the Iraqi and Iranian regimes.

Balance of power "in our favour"? This is what has existed, of course, since the Gulf war. But can a balance "in favour of" anyone be considered a balance? With Iraq and Iran out of the equation, just how tempting will it be for Israel, one of our "regional allies," to "settle accounts" with various Arab countries? Discussing Iraq specifically, Mr. Indyk described the Clinton administration policy in these terms:

"We seek Iraq's full compliance with all U.N. resolutions including Resolution 688, which calls upon the regime to end its repression of the Iraqi people. Some have tried to portray our policy as softening. But by now it should be clear that we seek full compliance from all current or future Iraqi regimes... Now, we have decided to seek the estab-

lishment of a U.N. commission to investigate the charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity in Iraq itself... Our purpose is deliberate: it is to establish clearly and unequivocally that the current regime in Iraq is a criminal regime, beyond the pale of international society and, in our judgement, irredeemable. We are also providing stronger backing for the Iraqi National Congress as a democratic alternative to Saddam Hussein."

...and Iran

"Containing the threat from Iran is a more difficult though no less necessary undertaking. When we assess Iranian intentions and capabilities we see a dangerous combination for western interests... It is the foremost state sponsor of terrorism and assassination across the globe... We will pursue the effort of active containment unilaterally, maintaining the counter-terrorism sanctions and other measures enacted by previous administrations to encourage a change in Iranian behaviour... The necessity to act now derives from the fact that Iran's threatening intentions for the mo-

ment outstrip its capabilities. But this moment will not last for long. If we fail in our efforts to modify Iranian behaviour, five years from now Iran will be much more capable of posing a real threat to Israel, to the Arab World and to western interests in the Middle East... To the extent that the international community succeeds in containing Iraq but fails to contain Iran, it will have inadvertently allowed the balance of power in the Gulf to have tilted in favour of Iran, with very dangerous consequences.

Israel and the peace process

Mr. Indyk went on to the subject of Israel. Having explained how the "dual containment" policy would help protect Israel from the east, Mr. Indyk then discussed the value of the current Arab-Israeli peace negotiations — while warning that "if the balance of power in the region should shift again in favour of radical forces led by Iraq and Iran, this effort is likely to fail, as the military option appears more viable to some of the participants in the negotiations." Presumably, he was referring to an Israel

which would take matters into its own hands if the American containment policy failed.

Mr. Indyk said the Clinton administration had carried out an important initiative for the negotiations by offering to become a "full partner" to all the parties. But he added:

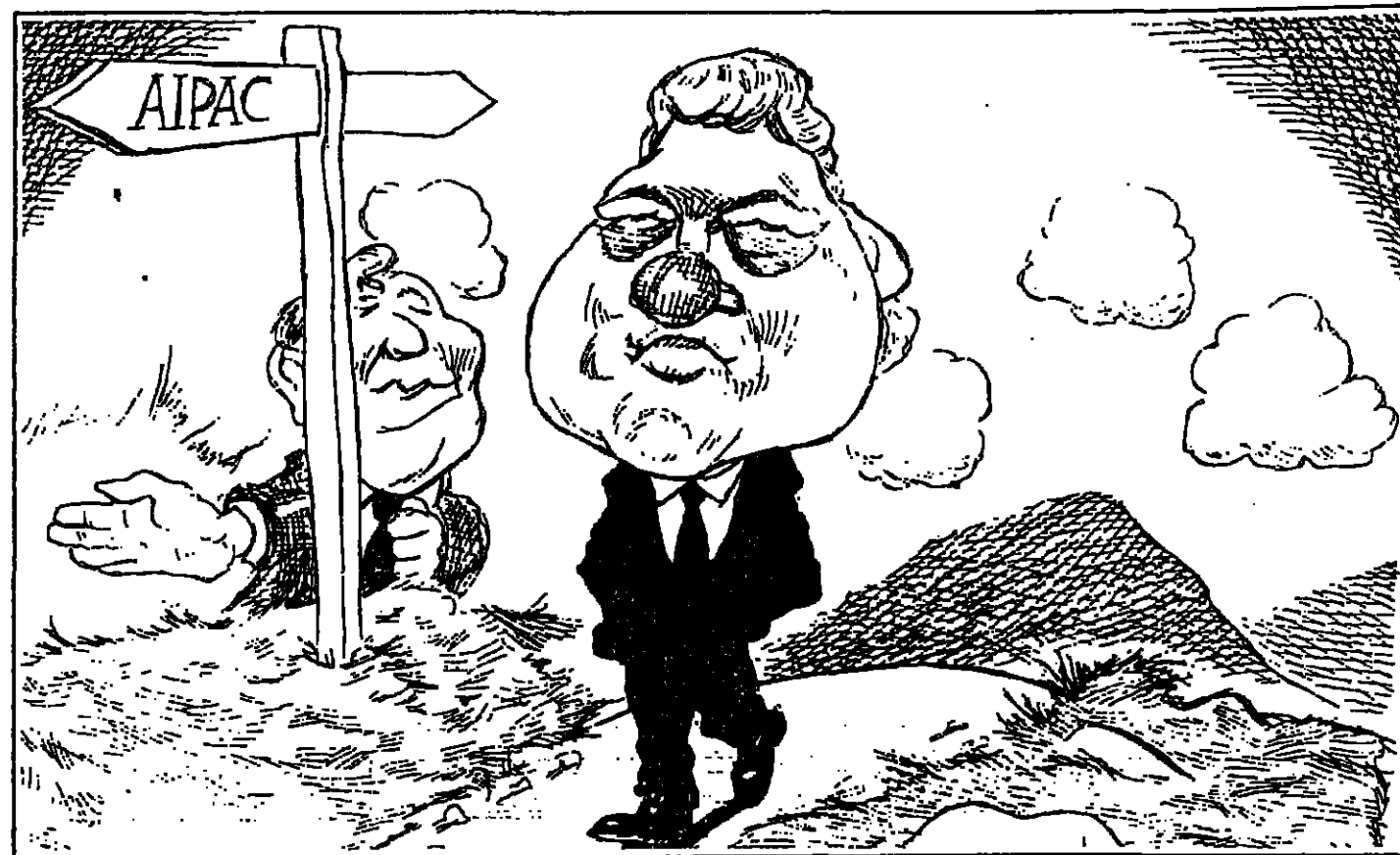
"This, however, remains a contingent offer. We can only be a full partner if the parties themselves are willing to assume their responsibilities... We cannot and will not substitute ourselves for their direct involvement with each other in the give-and-take of negotiations. If they are ready to solve their problems through compromises which take account of the minimum requirements of the other side, we are ready to act as facilitator and intermediary. But we will not be the ones to deliver or impose our will."

So what does a "full partner" mean, exactly?

Mr. Indyk went on: "The president and the secretary of state have made it clear that our approach to the negotiations will involve working with Israel, not against it. We are committed to deepening our strategic partnership with Israel in the pursuit of peace and security. Those who genuinely seek a comprehensive and real peace recognise that this cannot be accomplished without Israel undertaking a (sic) withdrawal from territory, involving tangible risks to its security. And those who seek real progress should understand that it won't come without this kind of special relationship between the U.S. and Israel."

Israel can take these risks, Mr. Indyk said, only if:

"Israel is secure in the knowledge that the United States stands four-square behind it. That is precisely why, when the prime minister told President Clinton that he was prepared to take risks for peace, Mr. Clinton responded that our role is to minimise those risks. One way we can do that is by fulfilling our commitment to Israel's qualitative edge. Another is to establish a partnership in the development and production of high-technology goods. That is why the president has already fulfilled his campaign pledge to establish the U.S.-Israel Science and Technology Commission, under the chairmanship of the American side, of Commerce Secretary Ron Brown — Middle East International.



Violence leads to debate of citizenship for foreigners

By Arthur Allen
The Associated Press

BERLIN — His colleagues on the Berlin City Council are perfectly polite, says Ismail Kusan, but sometimes they grimace at his heavily accented German.

Mr. Kusan, a Turk, can understand that. He is the only foreign-born member of any legislative body in Germany.

He became a German citizen in April 1992 and ran for the council four months later. Mr. Kusan lost, but replaced a retiring colleague from the Greens Party soon afterward.

The 44-year-old councilman says he speaks for the country's 6.5 million foreigners, about half of whom were either born in Germany or, like Mr. Kusan, have lived here half their lives. As Germany struggles to stop neo-Nazi violence, politicians agree something must be done to help the vulnerable foreign population.

But there is a problem: Germany will not embrace the foreigners until they agree to become more German, and most of the foreigners want to be accepted as they are.

"In America, you understand that people can have different nationalities and still belong," Mr. Kusan said. "The Germans say everything must be clear: either you are German, or you aren't."

Mr. Kusan believes foreigners should be permitted to vote, hold office or work in the civil service without renouncing their original nationalities, and has collected 500,000 German signatures in favour of dual citizenship.

Debate in parliament this fall on citizenship laws is likely to review postwar Germany's ambivalent relationship with foreigners.

In the 1960s, thousands of Turkish, Italian and Yugoslav "guest workers" were drawn to German factories and mines by handsome wages. When the programme ended in 1972, the "guests" not only stayed, but brought their relatives.

The 4.5 million longtime foreign residents have helped Germany's economy. They contributed \$7.7 billion in taxes last

year, 3½ times the \$2.2 billion in benefits paid to them, according to Stern magazine.

In recent years, 2 million more foreigners have entered Germany seeking political asylum. They include Liberians, Romanians, Kurds and 300,000 refugees from the former Yugoslavia.

Most asylum seekers are not allowed to work, and Germans have been increasingly unhappy about the cost of supporting them.

"The 4.5 million longtime foreign residents have helped Germany's economy. They contributed \$7.7 billion in taxes last year, 3½ times the \$2.2 billion in benefits paid to them, according to Stern magazine."

Hostility towards foreigners has found its most brutal expression in the fringe movement of neo-Nazi youth. Since the beginning of 1992, these "skinheads" have killed 26 people and badly injured hundreds more, including asylum seekers, longtime residents and native-born Germans.

On May 29, a week after parliament passed a law restricting asylum, neo-Nazis firebombed a house in Solingen, killing five Turkish girls and women.

Alarmed by the resulting domestic and international outcry, Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government proposed laws last week to crack down on teen-age thugs. Many Germans believe, however, that the violence is too deeply rooted to be handled by police alone.

Leftists say it springs from a chauvinism that survived the defeat of Nazism and is reflected in a law, on the books since 1913, that determines citizenship on the basis of German ancestry.

Mr. Kohl has accepted the idea of citizenship for the estimated 1.5 million German-born children of minorities, but insists they renounce their previous

citizenship and "integrate" into German society.

"With whom do I integrate?" asked Taner Aday, 40, a Turkish-born civil rights activist who has lived in Duisburg for 14 years. "I care about Germany. I want to make it more democratic. Doesn't that make me German?"

Mr. Aday, who helped organise an unprecedented one-hour strike by Turkish shopkeepers June 11, says he wants all 1.8 million Turks to take their money out of the banks for a day to demonstrate their economic power.

Some Turks insist on dual citizenship because they fear losing inheritance rights in Turkey. Others "are afraid that fascism will rise again," Mr. Kusan said. "The Jews and gypsies didn't have another homeland, and look what happened to them."

In more than 20 interviews over several weeks, foreign residents expressed a deep alienation from German society despite the acknowledged benefits it has provided, such as schooling and health care.

"Most Germans aren't anti-foreigner, but they aren't tolerant," said Panos Vlachopoulos, 28, a business student at Bonn University who was born in Germany. "They accept me if I act German, but not if I act Greek."

Officials bridle at claims that Germans are somehow programmed for xenophobia. They point out that anti-foreigner violence also is growing elsewhere in Europe, and that Germany has generously welcomed refugees.

Last fall, more than 3 million Germans marched in candlelight parades against neo-Nazi violence.

Some of Mr. Kohl's allies speak with alarm of a threatened dilution of ethnic purity.

In the debate on asylum seekers, Edmund Stoiber, then Bavaria's interior minister and now the state governor, said Germany was being "racially infiltrated." He later apologised.

Heinrich Laumer, a conservative member of Mr. Kohl's party, said in an interview that dual citizenship would allow the Muslim Turks to form their own political parties, possibly leading to un-Christian traditions.

Immigration reformers warn U.S. could face ethnic turmoil

By Christopher Hines
Agence France Presse

SAN FRANCISCO — The United States could see the kind of ethnic turmoil that has recently hit Europe, prompting tighter immigration laws, if quick action is not taken, according to immigration law reformers.

"There is a danger that the immigration reform movement, which is now being led by more moderate voices, could be captured by fanatics who would turn to violence and extreme measures," said Ric Oberlink, executive director of Californians for Population Stabilisation.

Mr. Oberlink's group is working to curb the environmental effects of population growth in the state that for the first time this year had to close off some of the most beautiful wildlife areas in the world, such as Yosemite Park, because of overcrowding.

Luisa Parker, from the Federation for American Immigration Reform, said leaders in France and Germany failed to address immigration concerns early on, leading to neo-Nazi violence and new restrictive laws that some call racist.

"Because political leaders did not address legitimate immigration reform there has been a violent backlash," Ms. Parker said.

The mounting number of illegal immigrants entering the United States has risen to the top of the political agenda in recent weeks after several cargo ships carrying hundreds of Chinese were seized off the U.S. coast.

Several Chinese drowned after they jumped into the chilly waters near the Statue of Liberty, the nation's symbol of liberty and freedom.

So far this year, more than 1,200 Chinese have been apprehended on the high seas, according to the U.S. Coast Guard. This is up from 619 in 1992 and only 20 in 1991.

The United States was built on immigration, but with a sputtering economy and a financially-strapped government, many Americans feel the country cannot continue to accommodate the world's political and — more often — economic refugees.

A poll last year found that 63 per cent of Californians feel there are too many immigrants in the state.

California's 10 per cent unemployment rate is one of the highest in the country and the state has become the most popular destination for new immigrants.

A record 303,000 settled here last year, at least one-third of them illegally, according to conservative estimates from the State Department of Finance.

Tens of thousands of Mexicans enter the state every year and by the year 2040, Hispanics are expected to outnumber whites and become the state's largest ethnic group.

California schools, hospitals, prisons and other facilities appear on the verge of collapse under the weight of a 2.2 per cent annual population growth rate, which exceeds that of India, China

and Indonesia.

The overcrowding has prompted calls for state laws barring illegal aliens from public hospitals and welfare support and increased vigilance along the Mexican border.

Other proposed state laws would require proof of legal residence for driver's licences and public school admission.

Critics have charged that such measures are drastic and would undermine the driving force behind the country's economy and its supremacy in science, industry and entertainment.

"It is important that we not overreact," said Henry Der, director of Chinese for Affirmative Action in San Francisco.

"We do not have the same situation as Europe, our country is not homogenous. We are a diverse country. We are a country of immigrants," he said.

LETTERS

Unique nomination

To the Editor:

I refer to your story in the diary column, published June 24, 1993, concerning the nomination of a member of the Jordan People's Democratic Party for the Christian seat in the Zarqa constituency in the coming parliamentary elections.

I would like to emphasise that the party's Central Committee has unanimously nominated comrade Bassam Haddadin, the first deputy secretary of the party and member of the politburo, to run in the coming elections.

The party's Central Committee had taken this decision unanimously at a meeting held in the Zarqa Governorate, underlining the party's unity in this matter. I should stress here that rumours about differences within party cadres over the nomination of Mr. Haddadin are totally groundless.

It is rather strange to see people involve our party in the question of nominating Mr. Adib Hawatme, from the Democratic Front (for the Liberation of Palestine), to run for the elections. The Democratic Front does not interfere in Jordan's internal affairs, in accordance with coordination in this matter between the party and the front.

Therefore, in my belief, involving the Democratic Front in the preparations for the elections only serves as a means of impeding the coming parliamentary election process and can only harm the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship.

Tayseer Al Zibri,
First Secretary of the Jordan People's Democratic Party.

Afrikaners reverse great trek as blacks fight back

By Anton Ferreira
Reuters

WELLINGTON, South Africa — More than a century after their forefathers conquered the tribes of South Africa's interior, many Afrikaners are in retreat as the tide of race war swings against them.

Estate agents in the Cape Province, where Dutch settlers first landed 350 years ago, report a flood of sales to whites fleeing the Transvaal in the face of attacks by blacks reminiscent of the Mau Mau campaign in Kenya.

Schalk Rabie, an estate agent in the quiet college town of Wellington, surrounded by vineyards, lucerne pastures and wheat fields, said he received scores of calls every week from South Africa's northernmost province.

"The first thing Transvaalians ask about a property is how far it is from the nearest black township," he said.

The Western Cape has historically had a low black population, while blacks are overwhelmingly in the majority in South Africa's three other provinces.

Mixed-race coloureds — descended mainly from whites, their Malay slaves and the San tribesmen who originally inhabited the area — are in the majority in the Western Cape.

Another property agent who

asked not to be identified said farmers in Transvaal and Natal — another violence-torn province — were attracted to the Western Cape by its image as a tranquil wine-growing area of oak-lined avenues.

"They think the Western Cape is one big advert for the good life, but the reality is different. Wine farms are very expensive, and the greater Cape Town area itself is one of the most violent parts of the country."

Security has become a pressing issue for white farmers following a spate of armed robberies and politically-motivated raids on their farms.

This year alone 108 attacks on farms have been reported, 81 of them in the Transvaal and only three in the Western Cape.

The farmers, many of them living on land won by conquest in the last century, blame the African National Congress and the more radical Pan Africanist Congress (PAC).

ANC Youth League President Peter Mokaba has gained notoriety among conservative whites in recent weeks by leading chants of "kill the Boers, kill the farmers" at black township rallies.

In April police shot dead a member of the PAC's armed wing APLA (African People's Liberation Army) and arrested eight other APLA members in

connection with the murder of a farmer's wife in the northern Transvaal.

At the dead man's funeral, PAC national organiser Maxwell Nemaadivhanani said the group would "always be after farmers who have illegally occupied our land."

"The migration, known as the great trek, led to the establishment of independent Boer republics in the Transvaal, Orange Free State and Northern Natal on land obtained from black tribes by treaty or force of arms."

An APLA member said in an interview in March: "Our strategy is we are going to hit the farmers hard until the land is taken back to its owners. We have to use the same strategy they used when they robbed us of

our forefathers' land."

The main white thrust into the interior began early in the 19th century when descendants of Dutch and French settlers began a mass migration north away from British rule in the Cape colony.

The migration, known as the great trek, led to the establishment of independent Boer republics in the Transvaal, Orange Free State and Northern Natal on land obtained from black tribes by treaty or force of arms.

Now the Boers — Afrikaans for farmers — are in the front line again.

In a new twist to the low-intensity war being waged against them, cattle have in recent weeks had their tendons slashed or been hacked to death with machetes.

The farmers have pledged that no amount of intimidation will drive them from their land, issuing repeated public threats to fight rather than yield.

But the reports from estate agents indicate many see discretion as the better part of valour.

"In the last couple of months we've had an enormous number of inquiries from the Transvaal," said Frik van Heerden, a Cape Town agent dealing in farms and businesses.

"The first thing they tell you is that they want to get away from the blacks."

Serbs and Croats bury the hatchet in battle for Bosnian town

By Natela Cutter
Reuters

KONJIC, Bosnia — "My enemy's enemy is my best friend," said Mirko, a Serbian soldier, sharing a bottle of home-brewed alcohol with Ante, a Croat, in a mountain-top bunker above the Muslim-held town of Konjic.

Until two months ago, Serbs and Croats were shooting at each other near Konjic, fighting for control of the fertile banks of the Neretva River.

Now the former enemies are fighting the Muslims of Konjic together.

The two soldiers reminisce about their days in military school, showing pictures of their children and chatting about mutual friends.

Below them is a spectacular view of the dark forests of central Bosnia, carpeted with wild flowers and strawberries. Recently repopulated Croatian farms can be seen with children playing in the yards.

In the valley Muslim forces have held Konjic since expelling Croats in April from the town whose pre-war population of 20,000 was 52 per cent Muslim, 26 per cent Croat and 14 per cent Serb.

Bosnia's Serbs and Croats have increasingly become friends since the breakdown in June of an alliance between the Muslim-led Bosnian army and the Croat Defence Force (HVO).

A new peace plan agreed by the Serbs and Croats to divide Bosnia-Herzegovina into three ethnic states — Serb, Croat and Muslim — has brought them closer together.

The agreement killed off a scheme by international mediators Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen to divide Bosnia-Herzegovina into 10 semi-autonomous provinces.

It also unleashed a struggle for living space between Muslims and Croats in central Bosnia where the Muslim state will be located.

Despite Konjic's pre-war Muslim majority, the Vance-Owen plan allotted the region to the Croats. But a surprise Muslim offensive pushed them out of the town, 50 kilometres southwest of the Bosnian capital, Sarajevo.

Ivan Zilic, an HVO commander who came to the Serb bunker for help, said the conflict between Croats and Muslims erupted when a local radio announcement in mid-April ordered all Croatian



WHOSE FRIEND: A member of the Croatian Home Defence Forces rides a tractor carrying an anti-aircraft cannon. Now Serbs and Croats are allies in their fight against Bosnian Muslims (AFP photo)

civilians and HVO members out of Konjic.

Only a few hundred Serbs and Croats remain in the town, either imprisoned by the Muslims or under house arrest. The nearest Croat-held territories are 15 kilometres away.

Croats have also been forced by Muslim onslaughts this month to flee the central Bosnian towns of Travnik and Kakanj.

Clinging to positions on the edge of Konjic, surrounded by Muslim artillery and surrounded on three sides by Muslim forces and by Serbs on the fourth, the Croats have turned to the Serbs for help.

"We are completely isolated in Konjic and have no way of establishing contact with (Croat con-

trolled) regions," said Mr. Zilic as the bottle passed among soldiers in the bunker.

"We are forced to lean on the Serbs. They have been helping us mostly with their artillery and food and they take in our wounded," he added.

"When we saw what was going on in Konjic we started helping them (Croats) with our artillery," said Bosnian Serb Colonel Risto Lasarevic. So far 30 wounded Croat civilians and soldiers had been evacuated to hospital through Serb-held territory.

In return, HVO forces have helped Serbs escape from Muslim areas. Before the roads to Konjic were blocked, Croats shared petrol and ammunition with Serbs.

Now they swap home-brewed alcohol for Serb cigarettes.

"We are mostly afraid that the situation will force us to completely evacuate the whole civilian population from Konjic (region)," said Mr. Zilic.

Drago Simunovic, another Croat-Muslim alliance was never very firm. "The Muslims are our worst enemies now. We must do everything to confront them."

Mr. Simunovic wore the same uniform as the Serb soldiers and spoke with the same Bosnian accent.

"We can cooperate well with Serbs because it was always clear cut which territories belong to them and which to us," he said.

Little killers that have been around for a long time

Are dioxins really the world's deadliest chemicals?

By John Emsley

DIOXINS ARE often said to be the world's deadliest chemicals, with a millionth of a gramme enough to kill a guinea pig. A month ago Greenpeace issued a report, *Dioxin Factories*, which blamed European PVC manufacturers for emitting dioxins. It speculated that enough dioxin was produced each year to give everyone in the world more than the limit set by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Dioxins are organochlorine derivatives, and over the past 20 years they have been found in weedkillers, water supplies, paper products, even breast milk. In all cases the cause appeared to be industrial use of chlorine.

Less well-publicised has been the discovery of dioxins in soil samples collected in Britain 150 years ago, and in sediments from Japan that were deposited more than 8,000 years ago. We now realise that dioxins are not new; they have been around since the time of the dinosaurs, or whenever there first were forest fires.

However, it was an accident at a chemical works near Seveso in Italy that alerted people to them. On 10 July 1976, an explosion scattered over the town a white powder containing about 3,000g of dioxin. For days children played in the curious "snow" before the population was evacuated. But despite all the publicity about hazards and dioxin's toxicity, no one died.

When the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) tested dioxin for its ability to cause cancer, it was startled to find that it was the most carcinogenic compound it had ever encountered. However, when a group of German workers who had been exposed to excess dioxin after an accident in 1954 were monitored 37 years later, most were still alive and well. Of those who had died, the incidence of cancer was only slightly higher than expected.

As the techniques of chemical

analysis improved it became possible to detect smaller and smaller amounts of dioxin until we can now measure as little as a million-billionth of a gram. We can show that dioxins are produced quite naturally when we light a bonfire, smoke a cigarette or even strike a match. The safe daily dose set by the WHO for humans is as low as one-thousandth of a billionth of a gramme, so it would take a mere two grammes to give everybody in the world this amount every day for a year.

There is no doubt that dioxins are dangerous, but how dangerous is a matter of debate. On the one hand, there are environmental researchers who believe the background levels are already too high and may be affecting human health and fertility. On the other, the chemicals industry is taking great care to eliminate the dioxins it produces and prevent them escaping.

"Contrary to what the Greenpeace report says, the amount of dioxins emitted by the PVC industry in the UK is minute," says Dr. John Baldwin, environmental affairs manager of Hydro Polymers, the UK subsidiary of Norsk Hydro, whose plants in Norway and Sweden the report criticised.

Thirty years ago dioxins were identified as contaminants in the manufacture of weedkillers. Apart from a research chemist who once made 20g of dioxin, no one set out deliberately to make them, but they are produced in significant quantities as byproducts in chlorination processes. The closing of plants that once manufactured weedkillers, and controls at other plants using chlorine, have reduced dioxin emissions to a few grammes, until today the largest emitters are thought to be municipal waste incinerators. Crematoria also emit some.

Nevertheless, the dioxins that contaminated the environment in the past remain, and some end up in our food. Dr. Paul Johnston



An Italian child exposed to dioxins in 1976

and Ruth Stringer, of the Greenpeace Laboratory at Exeter University, have been researching the dispersal of dioxins throughout the environment. They argue that the WHO limits for tolerable daily doses, which are set at a thousandth of a billionth of a gramme, should be brought into line with those set by the EPA. This recommends a limit of less than a millionth of a billionth of a gramme, although this is below the level at which we already

imbibe dioxins. "To protect human health, food purity and land values, and prevent further contamination of the wider environment, it is vital that highly contaminated sites be cleaned up," says Dr. Johnston and Ms. Stringer in a paper soon to be published. They even suggest that one way of doing this would be to extract the dioxins from polluted soil by using liquefied carbon dioxide.

The world's leading analyst of dioxins is Professor Christoffer Rappe, of the University of Umea in Sweden, whose skill is such that he can identify all 210 closely related chemicals that come into this category, of which only 17 are toxic. Earlier analyses lumped them all together and so gave cause for concern, whereas the real danger was actually very small. In 1991 Professor Rappe discovered dioxins in soil samples gathered at Rothamsted, Hertfordshire, more than a century ago, long before chlorine-based chemical industries came into existence. His work shows dioxin levels in soils have increased from an earlier 30 to today's 90 picogrammes per gramme (parts per 1,000 billion), and this can be blamed mainly on the chemicals industry, although car exhausts and furnaces have played a part.

At the turn of the century, industry began to use chlorine to manufacture safer solvents and antiseptics, and from about 1950 it also made chlorinated plastics such as PVC and organochlorine weedkillers. These were used as Agent Orange in the Vietnam war, and for eight years were sprayed to kill trees and expose Viet Cong troops. About 50 million litres of herbicide were deployed, carrying with it 150,000g of dioxins. Today, a chemical plant making PVC typically emits about one gramme of dioxin a year. A municipal incinerator may produce up to 750g, but these can be contained. The dioxin scares are nearly over — The Independent.

Daughter of the groom

Father-daughter relationship

By Anna Quindlen

My father was married for the third time last month. This makes him sound a good deal more Liz Taylorish than is accurate or fair.

He is, happily, a good man who loves women and who, sadly, has had two wives die of cancer. Our eldest child wanted to tell the bride, a warm and intelligent woman we liked instantly, that there was a curse on Grandpop.

But there was a blessing on him, really, and that was that he has been able to learn from death and grief the most useful lesson they can teach, the value of life and happiness. He has taught me that, too, as he has so many other things.

I was raised as my father's oldest son. I have always known how to fish, and I have always known how to talk back. I don't know if we girls who were so raised missed out on the standard romantic attachment to our fathers, or if it took a different form.

That attachment is powerful, and, oh, Dr. Freud, it is alive and well: When my daughter says to her father, "Oh, Daddy, I like your tie," she seems to imply by tone and manner that he nurtured

the worms, harvested the silk, designed the pattern, sewed in the lining and invented the four-in-hand knot, all before breakfast.

My relationship with my father was more man to man. He required of a fully developed human being that she have exhaustively studied both Max Shulman and Machiavelli, Django Reinhardt and Louis Armstrong, that she never, ever, call N'Orlins New Orleans or Philadelphia Philly. His motto was "winners need not explain." He treated B's as if they were F's. He was fast and funny; if you couldn't keep up, you got left.

I kept up. I was lucky in many ways. I've heard about the men who treat the birth of girl children as something only slightly better than death in the family. I've read about Elizabeth Barrett and the poor Brontës. If you look in the index of Bartlett's Familiar Quotations for the word "father," there are two full columns of entries. But a large number of those are references to God.

My father exercised only the tyranny of his expectations, but it was tyranny enough. And then,

not so many years ago, I realised that, like a heart transplant after the rejection phase, his expectations for me had become my own. And I stopped valuing myself by how my father valued me. I know from literature and life that that is perhaps the greatest passage that human beings ever make.

In her novel *The Lost Father*, Mona Simpson writes of one woman's odyssey to find the parent who had abandoned her. "I decided if I ever saw him again he would not be my father, but just a man," she says. But of course it is not really her father she is looking for at all, but herself. "I'm still looking, just not there," she concludes after the father has been found, and found wanting.

"There's an axiom in Zen Buddhism that goes something like this," the novelist Mark Leyner said when his father was being honoured at a testimonial dinner. "Before you study Zen, a mountain is just a mountain; while you study Zen, a mountain is more than a mountain; when you've finished studying Zen, a mountain is just a mountain."

I confess that this is the first Zen wisdom that has ever seized my fancy instantly. My father is

just a mountain to me now, a man and not a mirror. This enables me to love him as I never could when I saw only my own splayed reflection in the lenses of his glasses. His expectations were hard on me, but they took me places I would never have gone otherwise. A curse, a blessing, all in one. We might as well have a universal support group: Adult Children of Parents.

I have never understood those people who believe it is possible to cut the ties that bind without taking a big chunk out of yourself. My first word was Bob, which is my father's name. Perhaps it was when I had children myself that I lost the habit, carried well into adulthood, of seeing him through a child's eyes.

I was less the daughter of the groom at his wedding than I was the mother of the flower girl, worried more about whether she would lift her flowered skirts over her head during the ceremony than how I felt about yet another woman in my father's life. My father says my daughter is much like me when small. And my daughter loves her daddy so. And so it goes, has always gone, will always go — The New York Times.

Occupied territories face environmental crisis

THE ISRAELI-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip face an environmental crisis in which water resources are being overexploited and pollution from domestic and industrial waste is mounting, according to a United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) report.

Prepared by a team of experts who visited late last year, the report said: "Gaza's aquifer is being severely overexploited and salinated, to the extent that wells are going out of operation and water is becoming unpalatable and in certain areas even unusable for irrigation."

It stressed that the problem "is of crisis dimensions and rapidly escalating."

Reviewing the report, the London daily *Mid-East Mirror* quoted UNDP official John Oliv-

er, who organised the mission, as saying: "By the end of the 1990s, effectively they will be out of water."

Only about one quarter of Gaza's population is served by sewers. The rest must use latrines that drain into cesspits, many of which frequently overflow. "The abundant waste water and solid waste throughout the urban landscape contribute to the overall destruction of Gaza's water resources," said the UNDP report.

The Jordan River is a key water source for the West Bank but its flow is now only about one quarter of the 1950 level, and is increasingly saline.

"Another highly controversial issue has been the removal of trees, in particular olive trees, by the occupying power," said the UNDP report. It quoted Palesti-

nian sources as saying that 78,000 olive trees had been uprooted in recent years because of alleged security concerns.

This, combined with heavy grazing by livestock and unregulated cultivation of slopes has meant that "the fragile topsoil of the West Bank is at serious risk."

Towns in the West Bank are served by sewers, but most of them discharge untreated waste into stream beds. "The mission saw streams largely composed of raw sewage flowing in the dry season far away from towns," said the UNDP report. It noted that the waste was often used to fertilise plots "in all likelihood producing contaminated vegetables."

In both the West Bank and Gaza Strip toxic industrial waste

is mixed with household garbage and dumped in landfills. These "pose major pollution to soil and water" especially in the West Bank where pollutants can travel easily and quickly into groundwater and public water supplies which are not tested for trace chemicals, said the report.

The UNDP mission noted that life expectancy in the occupied territories, at 65 years, was eleven years less than within Israel. "A high and rapidly increasing population density, a high level of unemployment, a gross negligence of the infrastructure and increasing scarcity of water are among the major factors that determine the gloomy picture," said the report — Council for the Advancement of Arab-British Understanding, London.

OECD report sees serious systemic risks in world securities trading

PARIS (AFP) — The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in a report released Sunday said there was a strong case for official supervision of worldwide securities and derivatives trading.

"The issue of systemic risk remains serious," the OECD said, stressing the prospect of a "sizeable" expansion of trading in the years ahead in highly sophisticated markets boosted by innovation, new technology and deregulation, and increasingly dominated by institutional rather than individual investors.

In a survey of financial market trends, OECD financial experts cautioned against the proliferation of large-scale trading of over-the-counter derivatives — such as futures, options, swaps and related hedging instruments — "in which intermediaries assume large credit exposures and market risks."

They said a failure in one part of the system — for instance the insolvency or a major intermediary or a sharp price fall in a specific market — could "reverberate throughout the financial markets and cause a series of bankruptcies or liquidity problems."

This could inflict major losses on companies otherwise behaving "prudently," or require official support or intervention.

OECD staffers also said there were signs that credit risks might be increasing in this type of trades.

And they noted that since the number of participants in the markets was declining, "the failure of any sizeable intermediary may have proportionally greater systemic consequences than in the past."

The survey stressed the need for improved understanding of

the linkages between money, bond and currency markets and macroeconomic policies.

The changes in the securities markets had bred a new class of professionals with "specific mandates to maximise yields" and who would therefore seek to "identify and exploit any perceived inconsistency or lack of credibility," in government policies.

Reactions to inconsistent or mistaken policies could therefore lead to "much faster" portfolio decisions by institutional investors than in the past, it said.

Other arguments in favour of official supervision of markets — despite the complexity and possibly excessive cost of regulation — stemmed from the discovery that some major securities market intermediaries had engaged in "market manipulation and fraud in highly developed economies."

This indicated that "significant potential exists for criminal market manipulation" even in internationalised markets dominated by "professionals," the OECD said.

It also stressed that the large volume of funds managed by institutional investors — mainly insurance companies and pension funds as well as a variety of "collective" investment funds — raises "issues of prudential supervision."

Against the background of the ageing of OECD populations, these companies and funds would be responsible for a large share of assets needed to guarantee decent retirement incomes for a growing part of the population.

Since these institutions were managing a growing share of the savings of small savers, "this may be the most serious issue in the area of investor protection in the future," the OECD survey said.

Gulf Arab states seek to protect investments in the West

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Gulf Arab states are holding talks with the European Community (EC) to protect their overseas investments, a Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) official said.

The six GCC states, which have more than \$350 billion in investment abroad, also plan to hold similar contacts with the United States, a newspaper quoted the GCC economic chief as saying.

"There is a draft agreement within the framework of the Euro-Arab dialogue to protect and encourage investment between the two sides. It will be signed soon," said Abdullah Al Quwaiz.

"GCC states are called on to play their role in protecting overseas private investment through signing bilateral and collective agreements," he added.

Sheikh Quwaiz did not say what the protection would cover but Gulf states have suffered large losses due to currency fluctuations, stock market crises, fraud and malpractice.

They include Kuwaiti investments in Spain and the Abu Dhabi-controlled Bank of Credit and Commerce International.

"Most of the Gulf's overseas assets are based in the West in stocks, real estate and bank deposits, while around \$160 billion are in private funds."

"There are plans to hold talks with the United States to reach a similar agreement," said Sheikh Quwaiz, assistant secretary general for economic affairs in the oil-rich GCC.

"But we hope the United States will change its views that Gulf states are merely a source of money."

Business leader urges Bonn to launch economic offensive

BONN (R) — The president of the Federation of German Industry Monday urged the Bonn government and workers to take concrete action to revive the economy, which he said showed no signs of a recovery from recession.

"We need an economic offensive for strengthening confidence and growth," President Tyll Necker told a news conference.

Massive increases in taxes and public spending are a considerable obstacle for an (economic) recovery... there are no signs yet of a turnaround."

He called on the government to consolidate budgets through lower spending and without tax increases, to cut corporate taxes and to accelerate the privatisation of state-owned firms, such as the German railway, the Bundesbahn.

"Harsh measures to reduce structural budget deficits in all

sectors of public budgets are urgently necessary to restore the confidence of investors and consumers," he said.

"We are seeing the beginning of transformation to the state economy from a market economy," he said, adding the state's share in the gross national product rose to well over 50 per cent from 45 per cent before unification in 1990.

Mr. Necker also urged workers to do without new wage rises, freezing their incomes at current levels until the end of 1994.

"The wage accords in western Germany this year were not enough to correct wrong developments over the last few years sufficiently," he said. "With a real decline in gross social product, there is nothing to distribute."

Separately, in an interview with Manager magazine, Mr.

Necker said Germany could lose up to 800,000 jobs or 10 per cent of the country's total industrial workforce as high costs were forcing firms to move labour-intensive production to Eastern Europe.

"As a three-fold champion of high labour costs, short working hours and high corporate taxes, we are on the downward path," he said.

At the news conference, Mr. Necker welcomed efforts by Finance Minister Theo Waigel to embark on an unpopular budget saving scheme and Economics Minister Guenter Rexrodt's plan to draft regulations to secure Germany's future as an investment site.

But he criticised the government's plan to introduce a long-term nursing care system next year, financed by equal contributions by employers and workers, and to raise fuel taxes and pension fund contributions.

Japan's blue chips rush to set up China ventures

TOKYO (R) — Japan's blue chip firms, from NEC to Honda and Shiseido, are throwing off their usual caution and rushing to invest in China, which promises growth unmatched in any other market, officials and economists have said.

Contracted Japanese investment in China in 1992 surged by 170 per cent from 1991 levels, to \$2.173 billion, with 1,805 projects — up 200 per cent — according to figures from Japan's ministry of international trade and industry.

"Investment from Japan has increased dramatically in recent years," said Kenji Hattori, head of research at the Japan-China Association of Economy Trade.

"The difference from before is that many firms are eyeing the market itself more than its value as a production base. Another change is aggressive investment by big firms," he said.

Last year, computer giant NEC, eager to grab a share of Peking's ambitious telecommunications budget, invested \$32 million to set up with a Chinese partner in Tianjin a venture to produce digital switching systems, the first Japanese telecom maker to set up such a factory in China.

NEC holds 35 per cent of the venture, which is due to start

production at the end of June. By the end of this century, China plans to boost its ratio of telephone sets from the current 1.5 per 100 people to five per 100, putting in service 100 million exchange lines this decade and making it the largest telecommunications market on earth.

"The Chinese market has enormous potential and is becoming more and more attractive," said Hideo Terai, general manager of NEC's China plant project division. "You can imagine how huge the market will be just by calculating the population."

For Honda Motors, the allure is motorcycles.

In only six months from last August, Honda set up three joint ventures in China, with a total capital of \$57 million, to get a share of the world's largest motorcycle market of over two million units a year.

"Soaring individual incomes and poor infrastructure lift demand for motorcycles," said Shin Tanaka, assistant manager of public relations at Honda.

"The market will continue to grow till the end of this century, when the passenger car market will take off," he said.

He said a motorcycle market took off when a country's gross national product per person reached \$1,000. The real figure in

China is close to that level despite official estimates putting it at \$350.

Shiseido, Japan's biggest producer of cosmetics, is keen to ride a consumer boom that is changing the lifestyle of Chinese and persuading them to trade in their Mao jackets for Western clothes and cosmetics.

Shiseido took a 65 per cent stake in a joint venture in Peking, capitalised at one billion yen (\$9 million), which will start selling face lotions and cosmetics next year and aims to post sales of 10 billion yen (\$90 million) in 1996.

But so strong was demand that Shiseido started direct exports last December without waiting for production to start at the Peking plant, as originally planned.

"Foreigners were allowed to open department stores in China last autumn, which enabled us to display cosmetics in those elegant shops," said Yasutaka Mori, director of international business development at Shiseido and chairman of the joint venture.

"So we brought forward the product marketing schedule."

"Our brands are very popular there even though products are 50 to 80 per cent more expensive than in Japan after tariffs," said Mr. Mori.

Shipping losses decrease

LONDON (AFP) — The number of ships lost at sea declined in 1992 while the number scrapped rose to its highest level for five years, shipping information service Lloyd's Register said Monday.

A total of 213 ships were lost last year after 258 lost in 1991, Lloyd's said. Around 80 per cent of them were more than 15 years old when they sank.

The number of fatalities fell to 246, the lowest number of deaths since 1980, Lloyd's said.

At the same time, the amount of tonnage demolished in the year rose to 6.6 million tonnes (1,004 ships), the highest level since 1987.

Analysts still feel that the "falls far short of the levels required to have any significance for the dry cargo and tanker market," the Lloyd's report said.

China emerged as the world's largest shipbreaking nation and "is clearly going to dominate the industry over the foreseeable future," China demolished one third of the tonnage, followed by India with 29 per cent and Bangladesh.

Montedison announces \$1.1 billion loss

MILAN (R) — Montedison SPA, industrial arm of financially troubled food-to-chemicals group Ferruzzi, said Monday its 1992 loss had been 1.68 trillion lire (\$1.1 billion), some 30 per cent higher than first announced.

Acting Vice-President Carlo Sama told a shareholders' assembly the increased losses were suffered by a group financing company, Montedison International Holding.

Mr. Sama gave no further details and he did not immediately explain why the loss had not appeared on the group's balance sheet when it was first published on May 28.

Creditor banks are drawing up a rescue plan for the group, Italy's second largest private firm, after Ferruzzi said earlier this

month it could no longer keep up payments on its 30 trillion lire (\$19 billion) gross debt.

Banks, in agreement with the group, have already named a new president and managing director for the group to implement the eventual reorganisation of Ferruzzi which is likely to include heavy asset sales as well as a debt restructuring.

Shareholders and analysts reacted angrily to news of the increased loss.

"Thank God, I am only a small shareholder," said one investor in a speech to the assembly. "I could have lost all I have," he said.

Ferruzzi and Montedison share prices have shed around half their value since the company first

announced it was in crisis.

"It is really not on," said one London-based share analyst, who asked not to be identified. "Both the company and their auditors have a lot of questions to answer," he said, referring to news of the higher loss.

Mr. Sama said the company was also making a 500 million lire (\$322,000) provision against any possible liability stemming from the flight of a former company president who is wanted in connection with Italy's long-running corruption scandal.

Giuseppe Garofano, who has been missing abroad since February, is accused by Milan magistrates of donating some 250 million lire (\$162,000) to the ruling Christian Democrats.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR TUESDAY JUNE 29, 1993

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Wright Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Private concerns can be solved and made workable tonight so be sure not to waste a moment gathering the information you need for social pleasure and betterment.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You now are able to find the right person to give you the suggestions you desire in order to have your business affairs working in good order.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Whatever you can do to improve the value of your relationships with other persons appearance wise or in health is good, but tonight avoid arguments.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Think about how to get some confidential information that can aid you in increasing the worth of whatever you own, tonight avoid a discussion at home.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You now have some practical minded acquaintances who can give you the right start to gain a most cherished longing, tonight be economical.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Think about your worldly position and how it can be improved by your own conscientious attention to it, tonight don't force personal issues or trouble.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) This is your day to be off and away during spare moments to new and worthwhile places while in the evening a secret annoyance should be ignored.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You find it possible to handle whatever material concerns arise wisely during the day but tonight you need to consider where you are headed.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Confer with a money-conscious partner early about an important joint project and come to a wise conclusion, tonight don't go out on the town for pleasure.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Being very down to earth in doing whatever activities face you now can bring you considerable success while later avoid a newcomer who wants something.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) This is a day not only to arrange some future pleasures but also to spend spare moments enjoying yourself, tonight don't be extravagant.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Do something your family will appreciate before you get into other outside activities but tonight sidestep a partner who has a tremendous ego.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Certainly contact whoever is available with whom you have usual contact and get them to go along with your plans, tonight do what protects health.

THE Daily Crossword by Melvin Kenworthy

ACROSS	DOWN
1. Stop. Item.	1. Bitter-sweet word.
2. Crack down.	2. Long-legged bird.
3. Warmly.	3. Aromatic.
4. Ark.	4. Aromatic.
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THE BETTER HALF. By Glasbergen

"It's bad manners to comb your hair at the dinner table — especially with your fork!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

YOLID
SLEBS
QUINUE
NAHZIG

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GRAIN CHAFE OMELET COERCE
Answer: What the melancholy painter made — A LONG FACE

Peanuts

Andy Capp

Mutt'n'Jeff

Foreign investment in Jordan is still low

By Samir Shafiq
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Statistics show that Jordan has not yet succeeded in attracting an acceptable level of foreign investment despite the Kingdom's continued efforts to activate both local and foreign investments through repeated policy and legislation adjustments towards that end.

According to a study prepared by Hamad Kasasbeh, assistant to the head of Research and Studies Department at the Central Bank of Jordan, the registered capital of foreign companies in Jordan has not exceeded seven per cent of the overall capital of all companies registered in the Kingdom between the years 1975-1990.

Even in 1992, the year when investment expenditure was at a noticeably high level, Dr. Kasasbeh said the capital of foreign companies did not exceed 10 per cent of the overall capital of all companies registered in Jordan.

Addressing an economic symposium organised by the Centre for Strategic Studies and held at the University of Jordan in the middle of June, Dr. Kasasbeh said that the slow pace of privatisation in the country was an inhibiting factor towards a greater private sector investment.

Dr. Kasasbeh pointed out that out of five public institutions slated for privatisation under the economic adjustment programme, the government has only agreed to transfer Royal Jordanian to a public shareholding company.

The lecturer attributed the limited investment climate in Jordan to other two factors, namely:

A- The lack of coordination and duplication of functions of the corporation that looks after free zones and the corporation that follows up on industrial cities.

B- The weak institutional structure to attract foreign investment.

The researcher said that the department concerned with encouraging investments at the Ministry of Industry and Trade has no international relations as its services are locally limited to providing information, conducting studies and following up on projects under establishment.

Dr. Kasasbeh listed several measures which, he said, the government had taken over the years to boost investment. Specifically, the factors were in the following areas:

- 1) Achieving stability for the national currency, controlling inflationary pressures and freeing foreign currency regulations.
- 2) Rebuilding the Kingdom's financial reserves to an acceptable level of JD 3.3 billion in 1992.
- 3) Activating and developing exports through special export financing schemes.
- 4) Reorganising and upgrading the banking system.

5) Updating, expanding and modernising all infrastructure requirements.

6) Gradual reduction in the budget deficit.

7) Restructuring Jordan's foreign debt.

8) Widening tax and customs incentives to investors.

9) Developing free zones and industrial cities.

Dr. Kasasbeh pointed out that between 1982-1992, 144 firms, with a JD 186 million investment volume, were licensed to function in the Sahab industrial city. These firms employed 7,600 workers.

said the lecturer.

At Al Hassan industrial city, 39 industries, having a JD 26.8 million investment volume, were set up between 1982-1992. These projects provided 961 employment opportunities.

The central bank researcher emphasised that the small and limited size of the local market and its vulnerability to development in neighbouring regional markets, in addition to the political and military instability in the Arab area have all been hindrances to bring Arab and foreign investment to Jordan.

As such, Dr. Kasasbeh explained, government policies have always been faced with these obstacles in trying to lure higher levels of Arab and foreign investments to the Kingdom.

To improve and increase local and foreign investments in the Kingdom, Dr. Kasasbeh proposed taking more advantage of the resources available at the Islamic Development Bank (IDB).

By having the IDB enter as a partner in the capital of productive projects, other parties will be encouraged to join in the funding

of the projects which the IDB had verified as feasible and viable, Dr. Kasasbeh said. He noted that the IDB had a \$22.7 million investment in the capital of four productive projects in Jordan.

Dr. Kasasbeh stressed that the Kingdom should upgrade and intensify marketing Jordan's geographic suitability, highly qualified and cheap workforce, internal stability and security and the relatively distinctive touristic, high education and medical services in the region in order to create a better investment climate.

He also saw the need of an institutional framework to encourage foreign investment, especially by hastening the establishment of the National Investment Corporation to start promoting

and attracting investments to Jordan.

Another suggestion was that the Jordan Free Zones Corporation concentrates on encouraging industrial exports and the Jordan Industrial Cities Corporation primarily meet the needs of the local market.

The researcher envisaged high investment activity from both the Social Security Corporation (SSC) and the Jordan Investment Corporation (JIC) on the condition both institutions activate their roles by directing their funds to various economic sectors.

He noted that recent figures showed that deposits at banks and financial institutions constituted 41 per cent of the SSC's total assets, whereas develop-

ment bonds, stocks and shares covered 27 per cent of the total.

The JIC figures were not any better as the corporation had 84 per cent of its assets in shares while deposits at banks covered 13 per cent of the total.

Dr. Kasasbeh stressed the need to give privatisation a more serious consideration in order to reduce the government's budget deficit to lessen the role of the public sector in the economy and, consequently, jump-start the private sector to command higher responsibilities in the national economy.

In conclusion, the researcher called for giving small enterprises additional financial support to lessen unemployment and create wider investment activity.

Registered companies from 1975 - 1990 in JD millions

Year	Number	Total capital	Foreign Investment capital	Percentage of foreign investment
1975	942	15.1	0.7	4.6
1976	1347	28.3	1.8	6.5
1977	1262	38.5	2.6	6.7
1978	1383	38.3	2.5	6.8
1979	1240	35.7	0.9	2.8
1980	1213	35.5	1.8	5.2
1981	1636	39.1	0.9	2.3
1982	1657	44.2	2.2	5.0
1983	1873	48.1	5.8	12.0
1984	1845	48.7	2.5	5.1
1985	1801	49.7	4.6	9.3
1986	1921	36.8	4.1	11.2
1987	1990	38.9	2.2	5.7
1988	1974	39.3	3.4	8.7
1989	1840	43.1	2.1	5.1
1990	2393	46.2	7.9	17.1
Total	—	624.8	46.6	7.0

Investment indicators from 1975 - 1992 in JD millions

year	Investment spending	growth %	share % in GDP	local savings	savings gap
1975-1980	175.6	44.2	48.3	-119.0	-294.6
1981	701.0	51.1	49.1	-103.3	-804.3
1982	679.4	-3.1	41.5	-218.1	-897.5
1983	623.4	-8.2	30.3	-203.9	-827.3
1984	577.6	-7.3	30.5	-229.9	-695.4
1985	426.8	-26.1	21.7	-342.4	-796.4
1986	447.9	4.9	21.2	-164.4	-612.3
1987	544.6	21.6	25.5	-99.9	-644.5
1988	569.1	4.5	25.7	-54.3	-623.4
1989	602.3	5.8	25.9	-51.9	-654.2
1990	751.5	24.8	28.8	-425.9	-1177.4
1991	667.9	-11.1	24.0	-498.5	-1166.4
1992	1039.4	55.6	31.9	-536.8	-1576.2

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Currency	New York Close	Tokyo Close
Sterling Pound	1.4757	1.4765
Deutsche Mark	1.7070	1.7172
Swiss Franc	1.5153	1.5212
French Franc	5.7450	5.7065**
Japanese Yen	106.29	106.00
European Currency Unit	1.1460	1.1425 **

USD Per STD
European Opening: 08:00 a.m. (GMT)

Eurocurrency Interest Rates
Date: 28/6/1993

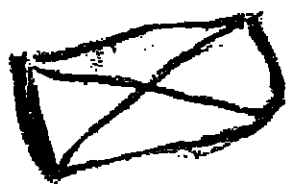
Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Dollar	3.18	3.31	3.43	3.75
Sterling Pound	5.75	5.75	5.75	5.75
Deutsche Mark	7.75	7.43	7.12	6.62
Swiss Franc	5.00	4.90	4.81	4.56
French Franc	7.31	6.93	6.56	6.06
Japanese Yen	3.18	3.12	3.15	3.21
European Currency Unit	7.62	7.25	6.78	6.45

Interbank bid rates for amounts exceeding 1 U.S. Dollars, 1,000,000 or equivalent.

Precious Metals
Date: 28/6/1993

Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	377.55	7.25	Silver	4.50	0.104

21 Karat



Battles rage in Bosnia as Geneva peace talks resume

SARAJEVO (R) — Muslim force battled Serbs and Croats in northern and central Bosnia Monday as pressure increased on the Muslim-led government to discuss proposals to carve the republic into three mini-states.

Sarajevo Radio said Serb and Croat fighters, enemies for most of the 15-month war, were on the offensive in a triangle of land around the towns of Maglaj, Zavidovici and Zepce some 80 kilometres north of the besieged Bosnian capital.

It said Serb tanks were attacking from one direction and that Croat troops had cut all roads out of the town.

Croat and Serb forces blamed Muslim troops for the clashes but details on the fighting were hard to confirm.

U.N. military observers have so far been refused access to the area but they heard shelling and believed street fighting was going on in Zepce and Maglaj, U.N. military spokesman Pepe Gallegos said in Sarajevo.

The fighting raged as seven

members of Bosnia's divided presidency, made up of pro-government Croats and Serbs as well as Muslims, met mediators Lord Owen and Thorvald Stoltenberg in Geneva to discuss reshaping the republic into a confederation.

Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic and his deputy Ejup Ganic are boycotting the talks on the plan, already agreed by Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic and Croat Chief Mate Boban.

Mr. Karadzic, who was due in Geneva, warned Muslims that Serbs and Croats would carve the former Yugoslav republic into two rather than three if they did not negotiate.

"The Muslims must as soon as possible clarify their position," the Yugoslav News Agency, Tanjug, quoted him as saying.

"If they fail to do so Bosnia will be in effect split in two parts, some of the Muslims will remain with us while the Croats will get the others," Mr. Karadzic said.

Bosnia's Muslim-led army and

Croat forces began the conflict as allies against the Serbs but have turned their guns on each other in a fight for territory in ethnically mixed areas.

Croat forces spokesman Veso Vigar told Reuters by telephone from the southwestern city of Mostar that Croat forces captured two villages near Zepce over the weekend.

He claimed 100 civilians and 20 Croat soldiers had been killed in the Zepce fighting. Sarajevo Radio has reported many dead and wounded in the area but few have been evacuated.

Mr. Gallegos said British U.N. peacekeepers in armoured vehicles came under small arms fire near Gornji Vakuf Sunday.

The British returned fire but nobody was hurt.

Mr. Vigar said Muslim troops at the weekend overran the village of Rosovo, a strategic point on the road between Gornji Vakuf and Novi Travnik, cutting a crucial Croat supply line.

Tanjug said Bosnian Serb

forces had accused Muslim forces of launching attacks across several fronts over the weekend and Monday morning.

It said Serb forces repelled a Muslim attack on Brcko, the bombed-out town through which the Serbs have a vital road corridor linking the land they control in northwest Bosnia with the Republic of Serbia.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) official Peter Kessler said a relief convoy carrying 80 tonnes of supplies for the surrounded Muslim enclave of Gorazde was being held up for a third day by the Bosnian Serb army.

Mr. Kessler told reporters that Bosnian Serb army chief General Ratko Mladic wanted the convoy to proceed without a military escort, which truck drivers were not prepared to risk.

Mr. Kessler added that hospitals in Sarajevo faced an oxygen shortage because Serb troops had taken 25 of the 98 cylinders which the UNHCR tried to bring in to the city Sunday.



Bosnian Serb soldiers relax on their camouflaged tank near the Bosnian city of Gorazde (AFP photo)

22 killed in weekend S. Africa violence

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — At least 22 blacks have been killed in random shooting attacks in troubled townships south of Johannesburg since Saturday night, police said Monday.

They said they found the bullet-riddled bodies of six people in a house in Evaton township Monday morning.

On Sunday night, four people were killed in two separate shootings nearby where gunmen sniping in a car killed 12 people in Sebokeng township the previous night.

Police said the attacks to be random but they were investigating possible motives.

African National Congress officials said they planned to visit Sebokeng to probe the killings and try to find an end to the violence afflicting the township.

Meanwhile, ANC leader Nelson Mandela has rejected demands for an independent white state by right-wingers and warned them the black majority would

fight any attempt to create one.

His comments were broadcast Sunday as pressure mounted on President F.W. de Klerk to act against white right-wing extremists who stormed democracy talks Friday.

Mr. Mandela, in a television interview recorded Saturday and broadcast Sunday, issued the sharpest ANC rebuttal yet of the constitutional proposals of right-wing groups who demand self rule in a loose southern confederation.

"An independent country which is not part of South Africa, that we will never consider. I think they must be clear on that," said Mr. Mandela, adding that the ANC was prepared to consider only an Afrikaner region with limited powers of self-rule.

In a separate development, Police said 11 people were under arrest Monday for an armed right-wing raid last week against the venue of South Africa's democracy talks, as white ex-

tremist groups threatened retaliation.

Police spokesman Major Rueben Bloomberg said seven people were arrested Monday and four Sunday in connection with the storming of the World Trade Centre.

The latest arrests came after Police Commissioner General Johan Van Der Merwe told The Star newspaper that security forces were seeking scores of white extremists accused of involvement in the assault.

A spokesman for the Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB), which led Friday's assault on the World Trade Centre, said AWB leader Eugene Terre'Blanche "warns that an explosive situation is being created by these contemptuous methods."

"Thousands of angry commando officers (of the AWB) are watching the situation," the spokesman said. "The AWB leader predicts big problems if the situation continues."

Armenians capture last Azeri-held town in Karabakh

YEREVAN (AFP) — Armenian forces in Nagorno-Karabakh Sunday seized the last town controlled by Azerbaijani troops in the troubled region, Armenian military sources announced.

"The streets of Mardakert have been cleaned" and no Azerbaijani soldiers are left in the town, which is located inside the predominantly Armenian-populated enclave, an official of the Armenian self-defence forces in Nagorno-Karabakh's main town Stepanakert told AFP by telephone.

Nagorno-Karabakh is administered by Azerbaijan but Armenian separatists in this Caucasus region have for years fought for closer ties with Armenia.

Ethnic Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh earlier Sunday

announced they had repelled a major Azerbaijani offensive against the disputed enclave after several hours of heavy fighting.

The latest attack came amid reports that Azerbaijani rebels pledged allegiance to the country's new acting president, ending a month-long insurrection that triggered a political crisis.

Ethnic Armenian units over the last year succeeded in linking up Nagorno-Karabakh with Armenia proper before they overran Azerbaijani government forces stationed in the mountainous enclave.

New Azerbaijan leader Geidar Aliyev acknowledged Saturday that Azerbaijani troops in Nagorno-Karabakh were in trouble.

Troops that joined a military rebellion against fugitive President Abulfaz Elchibey and later said they supported Mr. Aliyev were sent Sunday to Mardakert and Agdam, the Azerbaijani town that serves as headquarters for the republic's military forces in the war over Nagorno-Karabakh.

At least 7,000 people have died in the five-year-old undeclared war between the Armenians and Azerbaijanis over Nagorno-Karabakh.

"Units of the Azeri National Army, under the impact of superior forces of the enemy, were forced to abandon," the Turan news agency reported quoting Azerbaijani headquarters in Mardakert, referred by the Azeri

Agdere.

Mr. Aliyev huddled with renegade Commander Suret Guseinov Monday to discuss a possible appointment of the rebel leader to the government, Interfax reported.

The news agency said Col. Guseinov had requested the post of premier or chairman of a powerful State Council that would have control over the interior, defence and security ministries.

Mr. Aliyev, the former Azerbaijani communist boss who earlier this month made a dramatic comeback to rule the embattled Caucasus republic, began negotiations with Col. Guseinov Sunday after the colonel ordered his troops to unite against Armenian forces in Nagorno-Karabakh.

S. Korea to alter policy towards North

SEOUL (R) — South Korea, frustrated in its bid to settle its nuclear dispute with communist North Korea through dialogue, said it would formulate a new policy towards Pyongyang, Unification Minister Han Wan-Sang said Monday.

"Now that North Korea has virtually declared a halt to contacts with the South, our side has no other choice but to alter policies of South-North dialogue," the domestic Yonhap News Agency quoted Mr. Han as saying.

"We are going to go back to the starting point to formulate a new strategy which differs from the previous one," Mr. Han said. He did not elaborate.

Unification Ministry officials said Mr. Han and other security-related ministers in President Kim Young-Sam's cabinet were expected to meet this week to review overall ties between the two Koreas.

"All possible options will be discussed. But it would be hasty to conclude we are going to take strong measures against the North," a ministry official said. Like a deadly game of chess, the situation on the tense Korean peninsula is again in stalemate.

A recent flurry of diplomatic activity, involving proposals and counter-proposals, charges and counter-charges, has not shifted the positions of the two sides on the issue of the North's refusal to open suspected nuclear weapons sites to outside inspectors.

North Korean Prime Minister Kang Song-San Saturday blamed South Korea for the failure of their latest dialogue attempt, saying Seoul had met his offer of sincere dialogue with a "stance of confrontation".

Mr. Kang said Seoul authorities had shunned the North's repeated proposal for an exchange of presidential envoys to discuss everything that divides the two states.

Seoul immediately condemned the North for spurning efforts to establish dialogue and reiterated that it was impossible for the two sides to pursue reconciliation without the resolution of the nuclear dispute.

The two Koreas, still technically at war since the 1950-53 Korean conflict, have haggled since late May over the timing and terms of a border meeting.

North Korea insists that only when an exchange of presidential envoys has been settled can the two sides discuss Seoul's main point of contention, the North's suspected development of nuclear weapons.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Typhoon kills 5 in South China

PEKING (AFP) — Five people were killed as typhoon Koryn whipped through the coastal province of Guangdong, destroying thousands of buildings in Yangchun county, the Xinhua News Agency said Monday. The area between the towns of Zhuhai and Zhanjiang in the southwest of the province was the most heavily damaged when the brunt of the storm hit Sunday, Xinhua said. Guangzhou's airport was closed for the day and most sea links were cut. Damage was also reported in Hong Kong and Macau. Koryn weakened Monday and moved northwest into the province of Guangxi, according to Hong Kong's Royal Observatory.

Vietnam premier in Germany

HAMBURG (AFP) — Vietnamese Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet arrived here Monday for a three-day visit on the second leg of an unprecedented tour of European capitals. Mr. Kiet's avowed aim is to win European Community backing for Vietnam to have access to International Monetary Fund and World Bank loans, currently denied it by a U.S. veto. Mr. Kiet's 50-strong entourage includes Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam and senior economic officials. The premier, who arrived here from France, is visiting a newly opened Vietnam Euro Trade Centre near this northern port before heading to Bonn for talks with Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Foreigner's home attacked in Germany

MOENCHENGLADBACH, Germany (R) — A woman was injured in an arson attack on the home of a Moroccan family in Germany early Monday, a prosecutor said. It was the second arson attack in two weeks on the home in Wegberg near Moenchengladbach in western Germany and fitted the pattern of recent right-wing extremist firebombings. Two women and four children aged nine to 15 were sleeping in the house when it was set on fire, prosecutor Heinrich Dax told reporters. The blaze was discovered by passers-by at 2.30 a.m. (0030 GMT). He said the 31-year-old mother, unconscious from smoke inhalation, was found on the ground "and taken to hospital where she recovered. Her 21-year-old sister and the children escaped the flames by climbing a ladder from the second floor. The family, which has lived in Germany since 1977, had just moved back into the house after the first arson attack. It caused material damage and suspected right-wing extremists painted a Swastika on the house wall.

Bonn praises arrest of urban guerrilla

BONN (R) — German Interior Minister Rudolf Seiters said Monday the arrest of a prominent urban guerrilla was an important step "in the fight against terrorism." He deplored the death of a special GSG-9 police officer in the shootout which led to the arrest in Bad Kleinen, a town in the eastern Baltic coastal state of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. Birgit Hogefeld, 36, a top member of the Red Army Faction (RAF), was overpowered. Her companion, fellow RAF member Wolfgang Grams, 40, died after being shot in the head. Mr. Seiters said in a statement that the arrests of Hogefeld and Grams, who had been wanted for years, were an important success in the fight against terrorism. "Both were wanted as leading members of the RAF, the 1970s guerrilla group which reemerged in the late 1980s and declared war on Germany at unification in 1990.

Sharif rejects opposition demand

ISLAMABAD (AFP) — Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, facing the worst crisis of his political career, Monday rejected opposition demands for elections. Saying his government had a "constitutional and moral right" to serve the country until 1995, the premier told a meeting of his parliamentary party that 95 per cent of deputies were opposed to mid-term polls. Mr. Sharif, who Sunday held his first face-to-face meeting with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan since his reinstatement last month, said he had told the president that only those parties and groups with no parliamentary representation were vocal in demanding elections. The election demand was conveyed to the president through a resolution adopted by more than 20 opposition parties on the eve of Mr. Sharif's 90-minute meeting with Mr. Ishaq Khan, who had sacked him and dissolved the National Assembly on charges of mismanagement on April 18. The Supreme Court later struck down the presidential order and Mr. Sharif's government and the assembly were restored on May 26.

Report: Pentagon lied about weapons performance

NEW YORK (AP) — A series of federal studies show that military officers lied to Congress about the need, cost and performance of some of the most expensive weapons built in the 1980s, according to a published report.

The New York Times said in Monday's editions that eight secret reports in a three-year probe by the General Accounting Office (GAO), the investigative arm of Congress, showed the Pentagon overstated the costs of missiles by billions of dollars. Military officials also exaggerated the radar-evading ability of nuclear bombers, as well as the Soviet nuclear threat, according to the reports.

Sen. John Glenn, D-Ohio and chairman of the Government Affairs Committee that commissioned the studies, will discuss unclassified portions at a news conference Monday.

Investigators said that Congress decided to spend up to \$350 billion for the B-1B and B-2 Stealth bombers, cruise missiles and MX intercontinental ballistic missiles on inflated assessments, inaccurate testimony and misleading reports, the Times said.

The B-1B fleet is grounded by mechanical problems, and the B-2 has yet to pass flight tests.

Today, only the sea leg of the land-sea nuclear strategy developed during Ronald Reagan's presidency, the Trident D-5 submarine-launched missile — works, the GAO concluded.

TOKYO (AFP) — Municipal politics in Tokyo revealed growing public dissatisfaction with scandal-ridden traditional parties, presaging a victory by new groups in upcoming general elections, analysts said Monday.

Seemingly endless charges of corruption against both the ruling and opposition parties prompted voters for the Tokyo assembly to turn to the Japan New Party (JNP), a one-year-old party whose policies still remain vague.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) slightly improved its standing in Sunday's voting but failed to regain the huge number of seats it lost in the previous 1989 poll. And none of the long-standing opposition parties increased their representation.

"The outcome of the Tokyo Metropolitan Assembly poll held immediately before the general elections heralded enough signs of change," the Asahi Shimbun editorialised.

"What is clear is the harsh

Cambodia's interim government offers olive branch to Khmer Rouge

BANGKOK (AFP) — Cambodia's interim government has held out an olive branch to the Khmer Rouge, backing the Communist leaders' return to Phnom Penh and asking the group to join the unified army, a Cambodian co-president said here Monday.

Prince Norodom Ranariddh, who with Hun Sen is co-president in the government headed by his father, Prince Norodom Sihanouk, said the Khmer Rouge leaders would return to Phnom Penh on July 1 and meet with Prince Sihanouk before July 11.

Saying the hardline Marxist guerrilla faction could not be trusted, Prince Sihanouk had initially opposed the return of the Khmer Rouge to the capital, which they vacated on April 13 when they abandoned the peace process.

Prince Ranariddh, after meeting Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Soonsiri, told reporters here that he had also met with Khmer Rouge leader Khieu Samphan Sunday and gave him a written offer to join the unified army.

He had not yet received a response, he added.

But he said Khieu Samphan had told him clearly that the Communist Khmer Rouge now endorses the results of last month's elections, which they boycotted, and that it does not want to be part of the interim government.

"We will talk with them," he

said. It is better to have the Khmer Rouge in the Cambodian national community rather than have them in the jungle. They can't go back.

"Some Westerners want us to decimate the Khmer Rouge," he said. "We cannot follow this way because it will mean fighting again and we don't want to fight each other again."

Mr. Prasong said Prince Ranariddh, who arrived here Sunday, would return to Cambodia after a visit of three or four days, adding that the prince had assured him that the interim Cambodian administration would honour all business agreements made by the previous, Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh government.

Haiti leaders discuss power transfer

NEW YORK (AFP) — Talks aimed at restoring Haiti's democracy after a nearly two-year political deadlock zeroed in on specific transition steps Sunday, U.N. mediator Dante Caputo said.

Mr. Caputo met separately with ousted Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide and General Raoul Cedras, the armed forces chief who toppled him, on New York's Governors Island but there was no indication when the two principals might meet face to face.

The mediator shuttled back and forth between the red brick Coast Guard Officers' Club housing Gen. Cedras' delegation of 10, and a second building 100 metres away, where Mr. Aristide and 40 aides arrived.

"We are not talking about secondary problems, we're talking about the transfer of power, the changes in the (military) high command, and the return of the president," Mr. Caputo said.

Mr. Caputo did not provide further details, other than to say he was exploring "conditions,

ideas and guarantees" for a settlement to the Haitian crisis.

Sources close to the talks said Mr. Caputo and Gen. Cedras were discussing a possible sequence of steps to be taken in a transition, as well as a timetable for the process including Mr. Aristide's reinstatement.

The talks could last "three or four days," said the mediator, an Argentine former foreign minister who is representing the United Nations and the Organisation of American States (OAS).

If Mr. Aristide and Gen. Cedras do meet face to face, it will be for the first time since Gen. Cedras led the coup that toppled Mr. Aristide in September 1991.

The talks are aimed at a settlement that would reinstate Mr. Aristide, a populist Roman Catholic priest-turned-politician who was the Caribbean country's first democratically elected president.

Hundreds of armed security forces were deployed on and around the tiny island off the southern tip of Manhattan, which

is only accessible by boat or helicopter.

Authorities allowed only a small group of journalists to come to the island to cover the talks.

Black members of the U.S. Congress who closely follow the situation in Haiti were also permitted on the island.

Charles Rangel, a member of the House of Representatives who had breakfast with Mr. Aristide, said the ousted president was ready "to stay as long it takes" to bring to a successful end of the negotiations.

Gen. Cedras offered to meet with Mr. Aristide after the United Nations voted tough new sanctions, including an oil embargo, against Haiti because of lack of progress towards a solution.

The sanctions took effect Wednesday.

Mr. Rangel, a New York Democrat, said the only condition that Mr. Aristide has set is "his return to power and those who did the coup should not be allowed to stay to do mischief and violence."

Former heroes of communism on display at park

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — City officials showed off Eastern Europe's first post-Communist theme park Sunday, with statues of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Ho Chi Minh and a symbolic path that leads — nowhere.

"Long live the militant unity of socialist statues," read a red-lettered banner greeting visitors in mock tribute to communist slogans of the past. When communism collapsed in late 1989, crowds across Eastern Europe gathered to wrecked statues of their former leaders.

Budapest decided to preserve at least some of them as a reminder of the past. Now 42 examples of Socialist realism stand in a half-acre (quarter hectare) "statue park" in a middle-class suburb.

A path from the entrance, flanked by Soviet founder Vladimir I. Lenin and a composite of philosophers Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, leads to a 15-metre-high (50-foot-high) wall. "This path leads nowhere," said Janos Imre, 38, a chemist. "I brought my kids to see these monstrosities, but they just laughed." An eclectic range of Communist leaders is represented, from Lenin to Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh. Local heroes include Bela Kun, who led Hungary's brief 1919 Communist revolution, and lesser known politicians Tibor Szamuely and Ferenc Muehlich.

Oxfam calls for return of poisonous necklaces

LONDON (R) — The British charity Oxfam appealed Monday for the return of more than 1,000 Guatemalan necklaces made from beads that contain the deadly toxin Ricin. Ricin was used to kill Bulgarian dissident Georgi Markov, who died in 1978 after a poisoned pellet was fired into his leg from the tip of an umbrella on London's Waterloo Bridge.

Oxfam, which fears children might suck the beads, placed newspaper advertisements asking customers who bought the cheap necklaces from its nationwide charity shops to bring them back for a refund.

World's young need more information about contraception

LONDON (R) — More than 15 million girls aged between 15 and 19 become pregnant every year and a third of them have abortions, the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) said. The IPPF said many of the world's 500 million 15-19 year olds were sexually active but adults were often reluctant to accept this and family planning programmes were usually biased towards married couples. Many adults believe they will encourage promiscuity by giving young people information about sex. "But withholding information merely promotes ignorance, with predictable consequences," the organisation's annual report said. A study in Nigeria found abortion complications accounted for 72 per cent of all deaths of young women under 19. Some 20 per cent of girls in Bangladesh had a baby by the age of 15. Teenagers need more information about sex and contraception to halt the distress of unplanned pregnancy and adolescent abortion, the report said. "Society as a whole has not been very sensitive or responsive to young people," said IPPF Secretary-General Doctor Halldan Mahler. "A tragic expression of the failure to support young people in dealing with their sexuality is the high incidence of teenage pregnancies and teenage abortions," Dr. Mahler said.

Two World Festival due to open in Spoleto

SPOLETO, Italy (AFP) — The Two World Festival of theatre, music, opera and ballet opens in the central Italian town of Spoleto Tuesday with an ambitious programme in which the Anglo-Saxon repertoire is generously represented. The curtain will go up with a performance of Puccini's opera *Il Trittico* produced by Giancarlo Menotti, the festival's artistic director. The three-week programme will include the London box-office success *Salome* by Oscar Wilde, produced by Steven Berkoff and with Berkoff in the leading role. It will also feature the rarely staged opera by Igor Stravinsky, *The Rake's Progress*, for which the libretto was written by Wystan Hugh Auden at the instigation of author Aldous Huxley. The drama programme includes *Oleanna* by American playwright David Mamet and as a special tribute to Tennessee Williams who died 10 years ago, there will be a performance of his play *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Ballet will be represented by four companies, all of them foreign: The Garth Fagan Dance Company of Afro-American acrobatic dancers, the *Expresji* Theatre ballet from Poland, the Victor Ullate Ballet of Spain and the Berlin Opera Ballet.

Copa America

Brazil knocked out; Mexico in semifinals

QUITO, Ecuador (AFP) — Mexico saw off Peru 4-2 to book the last semi-final slot of the Copa America Sunday.

Earlier, Argentina had edged into the last four by beating Brazil on penalties after a 1-1 draw. That means host nation Ecuador, already qualified after beating Paraguay, will take on Mexico, with Argentina facing the conquerors of Uruguay, Colombia.

Mexico never looked in any trouble after going into the break with a 3-0 lead, courtesy of two goals from Alberto Garcia Aspe and an own goal from Luis Alvarado. By the 50th minute they had gone further in front through David Patiño, although Peru did have the consolation of a 65th minute penalty, converted by Jose Del Solar after he had been fouled by goalkeeper Jorge Cam-

pos, and an 82nd minute strike from Juan Reynoso.

The game, however, failed to match the earlier drama of Argentina's 6-5 penalties victory. Striker Luiz Muller had opened the score for Brazil in the 38th minute and substitute midfielder Leonardo Rodriguez levelling in the 69th with a pin-point header that went in off the bar.

Argentina matched Brazilian flair with organisation, but struggled to contain their opponents who made the naming during the first half.

But the match turned around completely in the second half as the Brazilian defence began to make mistakes. In the penalty shoot-out that followed, five players scored for each side before Marco Boiaideiro saw his shot blocked by Sergio Goycochea.

Fittipaldi triumphs over Mansel

PORTLAND (R) — Emerson Fittipaldi won the rain-splashed Portland 200 IndyCar Race Sunday and Briton Nigel Mansell, the pole-sitter, was second.

Mansell retains an 88-74 championship lead over Raul Boesel going into the next race in Cleveland, Ohio July 11.

Fittipaldi is third with 71 points. Paul Tracy was third Sunday. Bobby Rahal fourth, Al Unser Jr. fifth and Mario Andretti was sixth.

Before the rain started on lap 45 of the 102-lap race, Fittipaldi and Mansell had staged a terrific battle.

Mansell held off a charging Fittipaldi for 26 laps, twice thwarting the Brazilian's attempts to pass and nudging Fittipaldi's Penske-Chevy over into slower traffic.

At the end of lap 27, just before the tricky right-left-right chicane at the end of the front straight-away, Mansell made an uncharacteristic mistake.

Fittipaldi swooped wide before the Chicane, faking a pass and it



Nigel Mansell

appeared Mansell was distracted and missed his braking point. Mansell locked up the number-5 Lola-Ford, slid through the safety

cones and dropped to fourth place, eight seconds behind.

On lap 45, with the rain getting heavier, most of the field abandoned its slick tires and went into the pits for rain tires.

Mansell gambled, hoping the rain would stop and remained on slicks.

Mansell regained the lead and by lap 50 he had a 10-second advantage, although Fittipaldi was chopping it up by two seconds a lap.

Mansell's team reluctantly called him in on lap 52 to put on the rain tires.

That put Fittipaldi back in front and the two-time Formula One champion proceeded to show his prowess in the wet by building as much as a 62.5-second lead — more than a lap — over teammate Paul Tracy.

Mansell soldiered on in third place, but hopelessly behind Fittipaldi.

It was Fittipaldi's second victory of the season. He won the Indianapolis 500 last month.

Commander In Chief in Derby double

DUBLIN (AFP) — Commander In Chief became the 12th horse to complete the Anglo-Irish Derby double at the Curragh Sunday when he won his showdown with French Derby hero Hernandez.

The 4-7 red-hot favourite followed in the illustrious footsteps of, among others, Nijinsky, Grundy, The Minstrel, Troy, Shergar and Generous to give Saudi Arabian owner Prince Khalid Abdullah his first Irish classic success.

The Henry Cecil-trained colt stormed clear in the hands of Pat Eddery with 150 yards to go and resisted a fierce challenge from Hernandez and American Cash Asmussen in the final furlong.

It was Eddery's fourth triumph in the race and it was never in doubt after Prince Khalid's other horse in the 11-strong field, the French-trained Regency, had

made all the early running with Willie Carson.

Eddery tucked Commander In Chief into fourth place behind Regency, Shrewd Idea and Desert Team at the start, but moved him up to third by the four-furlong pole in the one-and-a-half mile race.

The pair then burst clear and eventually triumphed by a length from Hernandez, the 9-4 second favourite, to extend French-trained horses' drought in the Irish Derby. It was 1976 when they last won it.

Third place went to the Irish-trained Foresee, a 25-1 outsider ridden by John Murtagh.

Commander In Chief appeared to be aided by the tactics adopted by Carson on Regency, who was fourth. Criquelette Head, Regency's

trainer, admitted "I'm pleased they won the race. They had a great pacemaker."

But Cecil denied the role adopted by Regency had played a major part in the victory.

"It was a fast-run race, but Regency was running on his own merits and I don't think it was a factor," he said.

"People will try to knock Commander In Chief down, but only a very good horse is capable of winning two Derbys."

"He's a late maturing horse and could get even better yet. He's beaten a very good horse today and was just getting a bit idle in the closing stages."

Assmussen said: "Hernando took on the tiger today. There was no shame to be beaten by the winner. I guess we'll have to take him on one more time in the autumn."

Graf, Capriati and Sabatini reach quarters

WIMBLEDON (AP) — American qualifier Meredith McGrath, a 1,000-to-1 shot, gave Steffi Graf her toughest test of the tournament Monday before the top seed advanced to Wimbledon's quarters.

Graf's quarterfinal foe will be seventh-seeded Jennifer Capriati, who rallied past her former junior doubles partner, Lisa Raymond, 4-6, 6-3, 8-6.

Favoured to win her fifth title here, Graf had lost only three games in her first three matches. She jumped to a 3-0 lead against McGrath to give her a 19-game winning streak, but the 14th-ranked American won the fourth game, then battled on almost even terms in the second set before Graf won the fourth-round match, 6-1, 6-4.

Raymond, 19, of Wayne, Pa., turned pro this month after winning her second straight U.S. Collegiate singles title. She and Capriati won the national 14-and-under doubles title in 1987 when Raymond was 13 and Capriati 11.

Raymond, who had played only six pro matches before Wimbledon, said Capriati's experience proved decisive in an otherwise even match.

"In the critical situations, that's when she played her best," Raymond said. "I have a lot of confidence in my capabilities. I just as easily could have won that match as lost it."

Capriati praised Raymond's abilities, saying she had the potential to be top 10 player.

In other fourth-round matches, fourth-seeded Gabriela Sabatini pulled away from No. 9 Anke Habber of Germany, 7-6 (7-3), 6-0, and Natalia Zvereva of Belarus reached the quarterfinals for a second straight year, beating Zina Garrison-Jackson, 7-5, 6-2.

Graf's principal rival, No. 2 seed Martina Navratilova, faced 16th-seeded Nathalie Tauziat of France later Monday as all the women's and men's fourth-round matches were scheduled on another sunny day at Wimbledon.

Starting week two, the women's competition had an aura of inevitability. None of the other survivors seemed capable of preventing a final between Graf and Navratilova, winners of every title here since 1981.

But the race for the men's title was wide open — London bookmakers listed six other players as having as good or better a shot at the crown than defending champion Andre Agassi.

Agassi, one of the best server-returns in tennis, faced his first true test of the tournament Monday against No. 9 seed Richard Krajicek, one of the most potent servers.

The Agassi-Krajicek winner would almost certainly advance to a quarterfinal with top-seeded Pete Sampras, whose fourth-round foe was 33rd-ranked Andrew Foster — the last Briton left in the field.

Despite his world No. 1 ranking, Sampras is only the odds-makers' third choice, behind Stefan Edberg and Michael Stich, both former champions here.

Three-time champion Boris Becker also has looked strong. And two-time Australian and French Open winner Jim Courier, a baseline player, would

emerge as a serious contender if he triumphed over South African serve-and-volleyer Wayne Ferreira, the No. 13 seed.

The only man to reach the fourth round without losing a set was Henri Leconte, ranked 75th in the world and plagued two years ago back problems so severe that his career seemed in jeopardy.

The Frenchman, who turns 30 on July 4, won his first title since 1988 earlier this month on grass at Halle, Germany, and has delighted the Wimbledon crowds with his reckless, net-rushing style.

His fourth-round foe was Becker, winner in eight of their 10 career matches.

Stich faced 11th-seeded Petr Korda, while Edberg played American Richard Matuszewski, a journeyman who never before got past a Grand Slam second round.

In two of the men's fourth-round contests, no seeds were playing. Australian Wally Masur faced France's Cedric Pioline in one, and Americans David Wheaton and Todd Martin squared off in the other.

Martin was the man who ousted Goran Ivanisevic, last year's runner-up, in a five-set upset Saturday.

that Sarawuth Yongchantaanaskul of Thailand was eliminated in the first round of the boys' singles.

But it's rumored that he may team up with his countryman, Atia Chotiyarnwong, in the doubles.

Booming Brenda: Brenda Schultz has produced easily the fastest serve among the women at Wimbledon at 115 mph (185 kph) on centre court.

The rangy Dutch player even would rank 12th on the men's list of fastest Wimbledon servers, ahead of two-time titlist Stefan Edberg, who best was measured at 113 mph (180 kph).

Fastest man so far is Germany's Marc Goellner, whose serve was 125 mph (201 kph).

Sanchez prayer: Arantxa Sanchez Vicario has a chance to overtake Monica Seles for second place on the world rankings at this year's Wimbledon. But the Spaniard will have to pull off a minor miracle to get there.

The third-seeded Sanchez Vicario would have to defeat, in order, No. 15 seed Helena Sukova, No. 6 seed Conchita Martinez, top seed and world No. 1 Steffi Graf, and nine-time champion and No. 2 seed Martina



Steffi Graf

Navratilova in the final to leapfrog over Seles.

Should any of those opponents get knocked out before their meeting with Sanchez Vicario, then the 21-year-old would remain third in the rankings — even if she wins the title.

Quote of the day — "I'll be quite thrilled if it happens and I'll be quite thrilled if it doesn't happen because the holder of the record is a wonderful human being. If I don't break the record, I won't be shedding any tears."

— Martina Navratilova, who is three short of tying Billie Jean King's record of 20 Wimbledon.

Wimbledon competitors to honor Ashe

Nearly five months after his death and 18 years after his surprising Wimbledon triumph, the world tennis community will again focus on Arthur Ashe.

Over the next fortnight, competitors gathering at Wimbledon will honor the 1975 men's singles champion and raise funds for the Arthur Ashe Foundation for the Defeat of AIDS.

Ashe, who died in February of AIDS-related pneumonia at age 49, unveiled the foundation in August and said its goal was to raise \$2.5 million to \$5 million by the end of 1993.

"We've raised approximately \$2 million," said Jacqueline Joseph, executive director of the foundation.

This year the ATP tour's annual Hard Rock Cafe player party was turned into a fundraiser. The player normally have a jam session where stars such as John McEnroe, Pat Cash, Luke

Jensen and Jim Courier have played.

The party was moved to a larger venue, the Cumberland Hotel, and tickets were sold, with the proceeds going to the Ashe Foundation.

Kraft, the worldwide sponsor of the women's tennis tour, has cancelled its annual Wimbledon reception and instead donated the money to the foundation.

Wimbledon will have its own fund-raising efforts, while all players — men and women — will continue to wear on their shirts a patch showing a red ribbon on a tennis ball, the emblem of the sport's drive against AIDS.

The foundation will receive money from a series of auctions in conjunction with a national radio station in Britain and the resale of center court tickets, according to Joseph.

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GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSCH
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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Both vulnerable, as South diamonds.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South diamonds.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South diamonds.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold.

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Q.39—As South, vulnerable, you hold.

Q.40—As South, vulnerable, you hold.

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Adel Imam — in
The Forgotten
Arabic
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PHILADELPHIA

GHOST

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U.N. prepares plan to disarm Somalia

MOGADISHU (AFP) — United Nations forces are preparing a major new drive to disarm Somalia, U.N. special representative Jonathan Howe said Monday.

"It's one of the very toughest tasks we have and the city (of Mogadishu) is going to be the toughest of all," the retired U.S. admiral told AFP in an interview at the U.N. compound in the Somali capital.

The plan comes at the end of a month which has been U.N. forces in this lawless land plunged into bloody exchanges with Somali gunmen which have left dozens dead on each side.

And it comes at a time when the United Nations is in a direct confrontation with fugitive warlord Mohammed Farah Aided, one of the country's main militia leaders.

Adm. Howe has offered a reward for his capture, and in response Gen. Aided's supporters on Monday issued a "wanted" poster for Adm. Howe himself.

Under a picture captioned "Mr. Animal J. Howe" it described him as a "warlord" and says he is wanted for killing innocent Somali women and children.

Although there is a farcical element to the tit-for-tat posters, they also indicate how deeply involved the 26-nation 18,000-strong U.N. force has become militarily in a shattered country where the first foreign intervention was on humanitarian grounds — to get food to people starving through drought and civil war.

Throughout the strikes and counter-strikes of the past month Adm. Howe and his spokesmen have tried to keep attention focussed on the U.N.'s humanitarian and rehabilitation

aims. He said Monday he remained optimistic that within its two-year timetable — by late March 1995 — the U.N. operation (UNOSOM II) would be able to leave the rudderless and impoverished country with a working economy and a new, democratic administration in place.

Adm. Howe, a former deputy assistant for national security affairs to President George Bush, said the confrontation with Gen. Aided over the shooting of 24 Pakistani soldiers on June 5 would be seen in time "to have accelerated the process of recovery, not decelerated it."

"Because of these events it is absolutely clear both to us and the Somalis that disarmament must occur and it must occur rapidly."

He said that while U.N. forces were already raiding clandestine weapons sites in Mogadishu — which he described as "a nest of illegal arms" — "we will do more and you will see this campaign unfolding in the month of July."

"It will start with a voluntary turn-in campaign, but we are going to disarm Mogadishu. The arms have to go. And we will use this to accelerate disarmament in the rest of the country."

He said U.S. air strikes on Gen. Aided's weapons caches and headquarters in the wake of the June 5 attack had shown that "the U.N. can disarm by force if necessary."

By "removing a challenger" the United Nations had sent a message to others who might consider doing the same.

"The message for troublemakers is that it's time now to cooperate. If you want to have a place in this society you need to win an honest election."



Arab and foreign diplomats walk among debris in the Baghdad area hit by American missiles Monday (AFP photo)

Iraq blitz stirs Asian concerns

Combined agency dispatches

THE U.S. missile strike on Iraq drew a call for restraint from China Monday as European commentators questioned the motives and morality behind President Bill Clinton's retaliatory blitz.

A Chinese foreign ministry statement, distributed by the Xinhua news agency, said the Peking government was deeply concerned about Sunday's attack on Iraq's intelligence headquarters in Baghdad.

"It is China's consistent stand that disputes between states should be solved peacefully through dialogue and consultation."

"We are opposed to any act that contravenes the U.N. Charter and norms governing international relations. Nor are we in favour of any action, including use of force, that may aggravate tension in the region," the statement said.

Asia was split along predictable lines in its reaction to the U.S. missile attack on Iraq, with American allies voicing support and others stopping short of criticising the U.S.

Japan, South Korea, Australia and the Philippines supported the

attack, while Indonesia and Malaysia were with China in expressing concern or slamming the U.S. action.

Officials from Taiwan and Thailand refused to comment on the missile strike on the Iraqi intelligence service's headquarters in Baghdad, which the Iraqi government said killed at least six civilians.

Mr. Clinton said he ordered the attack after being presented with "compelling evidence" that Iraq plotted to kill former President George Bush during a visit to Kuwait in April.

Malaysian Foreign Minister Abdullah Badawi said the U.S. action was uncalled for and warned that it could aggravate tension in the Middle East.

Indonesian President Suharto expressed deep concern, citing his hopes that the involved parties could restrain themselves from worsening tension in the Gulf.

Pakistan said it "regrets and is deeply concerned" at the loss of life in the attack, although it stopped short of condemning the strike.

The Vatican deplored the deaths caused by the U.S. raid and withheld a verdict whether it was justified.

South Korea said the U.S. attack on Iraq was an appropriate reaction against state-sponsored terrorism.

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans said the U.S. strike was a proportionate response to the Iraqi government's continuing defiance.

Philippine President Fidel Ramos expressed guarded support for the U.S. attack but urged Washington to avoid an escalation.

Bangladesh officials said Dhaka hoped Iraq and the United States could settle the issue peacefully through the United Nations.

Yemen denounced the missile strike.

A foreign ministry statement said Yemen "expresses its regret and denunciation of this negative development, which conflicts with the U.N. Charter and the entrenched principles of international law and human rights and leads to the death of innocent civilians."

British newspapers said the U.S. raid was primarily aimed at soliciting domestic support for President Clinton and "was at best on the borderline of legality."

Baghdad, Washington exchange threats

(Continued from page 1)

White House spokesman Mark Gearan defended the administration against criticism that it was applying double standards in dealing with the Iraqis and Bosnian Serbs.

"That's just an inappropriate comparison," Mr. Gearan said. "This was a sophisticated plan of state-sponsored terrorism against a former president for his actions as president. As such, it is a threat against the country and every American citizen."

The Iraq News agency said mass marches took place Sunday in Baghdad and other Iraqi provinces to protest the attack.

Ten thousand people "filled the streets of central Baghdad, shouting pro-Saddam slogans and pledging loyalty to the regime," Robert Moore of the ITN television network of Britain said in a report from Baghdad. "It was not spontaneous, but extremely well-orchestrated by the regime," Mr. Moore said.

Iraq's main Shiite opposition group Monday criticised the U.S. strike on Baghdad, saying it would only increase the suffering of Iraqi people.

"Unless these and other attacks are aimed at eliminating Saddam Hussein... the Iraqi people will gain nothing but increased suffering," the Supreme

Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq (SCIRI) said in a statement.

U.S. officials declined to rule out further action against Iraq, which Washington said continues to violate U.N. resolutions ending the 1991 Gulf war.

"We have to stay right on his (Saddam's) trail," U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said. "We have to keep the pressure on and let his people know they are suffering because of his conduct."

But an Iraqi parliamentarian said the tough U.S. approach was backfiring.

"The Americans want to put us on our knees, but the more they try to suppress the Iraqi people, the more confident they are in their cause and leadership," Saddam Khalifa Al Takriti said.

U.N. experts charged with Iraq's disarmament resumed work Monday after a one-day interruption caused by the missile strike, a U.N. expert said in Bahrain.

Baghdad newspapers said Monday Iraq would never allow U.N. inspectors to put remote cameras on its weapons sites.

It was the first public airing the Iraqi press has given to the camera dispute, which has been ticking towards a showdown for about a month.

The Security Council has warned of serious consequences if weapons inspectors sent are not allowed to use remote cameras to monitor Iraq's missile programme, which is permitted under Gulf war ceasefire terms to build only short-range weapons.

"Quak... make Iraq tremble, and... will never bend it," said the government newspaper Al Jumhuriyah, keeping up the defiant tone in which it denounced the missile strike.

"Now, America is trying to close the door of the future for Iraq with the monitoring cameras in some factories," Al Jumhuriyah said in a front-page editorial.

"This is part of a gradual method to breach and revoke Iraq's sovereignty," the newspaper said. "It will inevitably close the door of the future for Iraq and deny it freedom and independence for generations."

The aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt headed from the Mediterranean for the Red Sea to bolster U.S. military forces in the region.

At the United Nations on Sunday, U.S. Ambassador Margaret Albright displayed photos of explosives that she said were intended to kill Mr. Bush during his April visit. The Iraqi ambassador said the alleged plot was a Kuwaiti fabrication.

King returns

(Continued from page 1)

that no solution for the Palestine problem could be achieved without the participation of the Palestinian people.

The King underwent medical checks at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Tests proved that the King enjoyed excellent health with no trace of cancer, his private physician, Dr. Samir Faraj said.

Before going to the United States, King Hussein met in London with British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd and discussed the peace process and British-Jordanian relations.

Returning with the King and Queen were Prime Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali, Royal Court Chief Khaled Karaki, and Chief of Royal Protocol Mohammad Udwan.

They were met at the airport by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, Their Royal Highnesses Prince Faisal Ben Al Hussein and Ghazi Ben Mohammad, royal family members, the speakers of the Senate and the Lower House of parliament, senior officials and high-ranking army officers in addition to the British and U.S. ambassador to Jordan.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Two-thirds of U.S. citizens back Iraq raid

WASHINGTON (AFP) — Sixty-six per cent of U.S. citizens backed their government's cruise missile strike on Iraq, but 54 per cent feared it would lead to attacks in the United States, a poll published Monday said. The Gallup poll published by the USA Today newspaper and the Cable News Network also found 53 per cent of 602 adult respondents believed the United States should assassinate Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, while 37 per cent were opposed. But the survey found that the latest missile attack on Baghdad did little to boost President Bill Clinton's disapproval rating. Just 20 per cent of respondents said the attack had increased their confidence in the president's leadership abilities, while 60 per cent said it had made no difference.

PLO official urges curbs on Arafat's powers

TUNIS (R) — A hardline Palestinian official, questioned the handling of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) cash crisis and Middle East peace talks, called Sunday for curbs on the powers of Chairman Yasser Arafat. PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Rahim Mallouh said all Palestinian forces should be involved in decision-making in political and financial matters. "There is now a monopoly of decision-making in political, financial and organisational matters within the PLO by a group or an individual," Mr. Mallouh told Reuters. "Yes, we mean Chairman Yasser Arafat who is the symbol of that leadership," he added, in a rare direct criticism of the Palestinian leader by a senior PLO official. Mr. Mallouh is a politburo member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

Masked men kill ex-mayor of W. Bank village

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Masked men shot and killed the former mayor of a village in the occupied West Bank, apparently on suspicion of aiding Israeli authorities, Palestinian sources said Monday. They said gunmen shot Salem Takatka, 40, late on Sunday as he was parking his car by his house in the village of Beit Fajjar, near Bethlehem. He died in a local hospital. Mr. Takatka, who stepped down as mayor at the urging of villagers at the beginning of the Palestinian uprising more than five years ago, was widely rumoured to have aided Israeli security authorities, residents said.

'Fraud suspect financed Mandela's visit'

LONDON (AFP) — A wealthy Greek-Cypriot who fled home to escape British fraud inspectors in 1991 put up £60,000 (\$90,000) for Nelson Mandela's trip to Britain two years ago, the Independent newspaper said Monday. Charilaos Costa, who made a fortune with a clothing factory in London, was asked by the opposition Labour Party to contribute the money for the visit by the leader of the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa, the paper said. "After the event, Costa proudly showed a picture of himself with the ANC leader in his car to visitors at his factory in Enfield, north London," according to the Independent. The Independent on Sunday accused Labour the previous day of accepting money it alleged that Mr. Costa "stole" from his company.

2,000 smugglers surrender in Bangladesh

DHAKA (R) — Almost 2,000 smugglers have surrendered to Bangladesh border guards this month, saying they want to be honest citizens, border officials said on Monday. Of these, some 500 smugglers surrendered Sunday in the northern district of Rajshahi, an official said, adding that he hoped more would follow suit. The smugglers arrived at camps of the Bangladesh Rifles border guards saying they had decided to "follow the path of honest living," the official told reporters. The officials gave no reason for the unprecedented mass surrender. Independent sources said it could be as a result of the tight security imposed recently along the country's 2,735-kilometre border with India.

Escobar family members in Chile, sources say

SANTIAGO (AFP) — Seven members of the family of fugitive Colombian drug baron Pablo Escobar fled quietly to Chile earlier this month, but their presence was stirred concern in Santiago, Chilean government officials said Sunday the presence of Escobar family members could be "dangerous" for the country. Rumours of their presence were confirmed when Mr. Escobar's nephew, Nicolas Escobar Urquijo, held a news conference here around midnight Saturday. "I am afraid something will happen to us," said Escobar Urquijo, 24, who refused to allow his face to be photographed. Mr. Escobar, head of the notorious Medellin cartel, has been sought since escaping from a special prison facility in Colombia last July. He also is wanted in the United States.

Egypt: Sudan making tit-for-tat arrests

CAIRO (R) — Sudan has arrested 14 Egyptian engineers and other project workers following Egypt's arrest of some Sudanese on security grounds, Egyptian newspapers reported Monday. "It is not permissible to arrest Egyptians purely because a number of Sudanese have been detained in Egypt in connection with security cases," Al Gomhuria newspaper quoted an Egyptian diplomat as saying. It was not immediately clear when the Egyptians and Sudanese were arrested.

Britain, Russia end cold war limits

LONDON (R) — Britain and Russia are abolishing cold war limits on the numbers of diplomats and officials based in each other's country, the Foreign Office announced Monday. A spokesman said the agreement was reached during a visit last week to Moscow by Foreign Office Minister Douglas Hogg. The agreement, which takes effect on July 1, removes limits set by Britain, and followed by the then-Soviet Union, in 1968 and 1971 which restricted the number of diplomats and officials to 205 for each country.

China, India to open one more border post

NEW DELHI (AFP) — China and India ended here Monday four days of talks aimed at keeping the peace on their disputed frontier with an agreement to open a second border trading post. The two sides discussed possible confidence-building measures to maintain tranquility on the border at the talks, which were extended by two days, foreign ministry officials said. No details were immediately available. Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Tang Jiaxuan and the Indian foreign secretary led the delegations at the meeting, the sixth held by a joint working group set up in 1988 to resolve the longstanding border dispute. The new trading post will be established near Shipkila in the northern Indian hill state of Himachal Pradesh bordering the Chinese controlled Tibet, the officials said.

Greece expel 2,600 Albanian immigrants

TRITANA (AFP) — Some 2,600 Albanian immigrants have so far been expelled from Greece in a retaliation drive for the expulsion of a Greek Orthodox church leader in Albania, a police chief said Monday. They were transported to the border under the orders of Greek police in a convoy of some 60 buses Sunday, Gezim Velimishi, police chief at Gjirokastra, southern Albania, said. They included women and children and 300 people whose papers were in order, Mr. Velimishi said, adding that several had been beaten and showed evidence of injuries. They were part of a group of 4,500 illegal Albanian immigrants rounded up by Greek authorities in retaliation for the expulsion Friday of the Greek Orthodox leader of Gjirokastra, Archimandrite Chrysostomos Maidonis.

Sri Lankan troops seize rebel base

COLOMBO (AFP) — Government troops backed by air power overran a key Tamil guerrilla camp in eastern Sri Lanka, causing heavy casualties and losing two soldiers, officials said Monday. Heavily armed troops Sunday overran the camp located in thick jungle bordering the three districts of Trincomalee, Polonnaruwa and Batticaloa, military officials said. The jungle hideout had been used by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), mainly to train recruits for their separatist war in the northeast.

COLUMN

Hong Kong rock star in critical condition in Tokyo

TOKYO (R) — Popular Hong Kong rock musician Wong Ka Kui remained in critical condition in a Tokyo hospital Monday four days after a fall, a senior official with Fuji Television said. Thirty-one-year-old Wong, lead vocalist for the Hong Kong-based rock group Beyond, has been in a coma since falling three metres from a platform and hitting his head during a pre-recording session for a programme last Thursday. He was rushed to hospital with a cerebral haemorrhage. Wong's younger brother Wong Ka Keung, also a member of the band, told reporters: "I feel very optimistic and firmly believe that my brother will recover." The other members of the band said that all they could do now was pray for Wong's recovery.

AIDS vaccine is still five to 10 years away

WASHINGTON (AFP) — An AIDS vaccine will not emerge for another five or 10 years and another five or 10 years and therapy for the killer disease is hard to imagine, the National Commission on AIDS said Monday. The panel's gloomy final report also criticised the U.S. response to the spread of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS), an illness it said "has profoundly changed life on our planet." "America has not done well in acknowledging this fact or in mobilising its vast resources to address it appropriately," the report said. Formed in 1989, the commission frequently criticised the administration of then President George Bush over his handling of the AIDS crisis. But it admitted that under President Bill Clinton the United States had started a more aggressive approach toward the problem, hiking funds for AIDS prevention in the 1994 budget by 28 per cent to \$2.7 billion. The commission has published 14 reports and numerous recommendations and remains committed to the establishment of a "clear, well-articulated national plan" to combat a disease which, according to figures from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, has caused more than 180,000 deaths in the United States since June 1981.

Boy spends cold night in forest

CANBERRA (AP) — A 7-year-old boy spent a freezing night in a forest after he wandered away from a family picnic. Police Sgt. Peter White said Richard Connelly was found unharmed by an army helicopter Monday, 20 hours after wandering away from the picnic site. Richard's family left the picnic just before sunset Sunday in two cars. When the boy's mother, Linda Connelly, was unable to find her son, she left several relatives behind to search for him while she went home to see if he was in the other car. Once they realised the boy was missing, the police were called in. Police said the temperature in the forest dropped to minus 3 degrees Celsius (26 degrees Fahrenheit).

Colombia collects fine from deceased drug baron

SANTAFE DE BOGOTA (AFP) — Colombia has slapped an unprecedented \$46 million fine on a dead suspected drug cartel member — and has plans to collect, a newspaper reported Sunday. The posthumous penalty imposed on Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha for falsifying export documents will be paid in dollars and gold ingots the army and police seized from several of his ranches, the daily El Espectador said. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration charged that Rodriguez Gacha, known as The Mexican for his taste for mariachi music, was the number two man in fugitive drug kingpin Pablo Escobar's Medellin cartel. Officials said many Rodriguez Gacha assets would be transferred to the central bank, which has been overseeing them since 1990. The alleged number-two Medellin trafficker was killed in December 1989 in a military raid along with five bodyguards and his son Freddy. The newspaper said Rodriguez Gacha was fined "for moving about earnings from his 'business' outside the scope of foreign exchange regulations." He reportedly ran some 50 dummy corporations, ranging from real estate to ranching, car dealerships and construction firms. The multi-million-dollar fine will be applied to Colombia's budget, officials said.

U.N. will not let Somali recovery fail — Ghali

CAIRO (R) — United Nations Secretary-General Boutros Ghali said Monday that U.N. forces in Somalia were determined not to allow any of the country's warring factions to disrupt peace efforts.

Dr. Ghali told a summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU): "Somalia is slowly beginning to recover. This recovery cannot and will not be allowed to fail because of the reckless and irresponsible actions of a few anti-democratic elements."

He lent strong support to attempts by the U.N. forces to hunt down and arrest Mohammed Farah Aided, the warlord whose forces killed 24 Pakistani U.N. troops earlier this month.

Dr. Ghali did not name Gen. Aided but said: "It is in the interest of the international community and of the people of Somalia that the perpetrators of these criminal acts be found and that they be held fully accountable for their actions."

There were no official Somali delegates in the conference hall to hear Dr. Ghali's warning. Somalia's seat at the 52-member OAU is being kept vacant because the country has no recognised government.

The U.N. chief said the human and financial cost of intervention in Somalia was high.

He said 30 U.N. peacekeepers and two other U.N. staffers had been killed in Somalia, where U.N. intervention began in earnest last December. Ninety had been wounded, many seriously.

"In addition to human costs, the financial costs of intervening in Somalia have also been high. The cost of military operations during the first six months alone

exceeded 600 million. The total military costs for the first 18 months will likely exceed \$1.6 billion," Dr. Ghali said.

He said the U.N. had established a \$160 million relief programme for Somalia for 1993 to re-establish the country's administrative infrastructure, create job opportunities, repatriate refugees, increase livestock and reestablish primary education.

He said years of civil war and factional fighting had wreaked havoc on Somalia's infrastructure and caused complete breakdown of government authority. He estimated that in 1992 alone, between 300,000 and 500,000 Somalis had died. Most were children.

Dr. Ghali said the United Nations had expanded its humanitarian relief programme in Sudan to cope with the devastating effects of drought and civil war in the south. "The ongoing conflict in the south of the country has made an already difficult humanitarian situation much worse," Dr. Ghali said.

He said about 5.5 million Sudanese needed emergency food aid. The number would drop to 1.1 million if this year's harvest was as good as forecast.

In Angola, he said, there was less reason for optimism. The country had plunged back into civil war after the UNITA opposition movement refused to accept its election defeat.

"The humanitarian situation in Angola remains very grave. It is now estimated that more than two million Angolans are suffering from hunger, drought and disease. Over 1,000 people a day are dying from malnutrition and other factors associated with the war," Dr. Ghali said.

Iraqi told to bomb street, Kuwait security court hears

KUWAIT (R) — An alleged Iraqi agent was ordered to detonate a car-bomb in a Kuwait City street if he failed to use it to kill visiting former U.S. President George Bush, a security police officer testified Monday.

The United States launched a missile attack on Baghdad at the weekend in retaliation for what President Bill Clinton called "sustained evidence that Iraqi intelligence service directed a plot to kill Mr. Bush during his triumphal April 14-16 visit to Kuwait."

The officer was testifying on the third day of a trial of 11 Iraqis and three Kuwaitis charged with involvement in the alleged plot, which Iraq says is a fabrication.

Two defendants, Raad Al Assadi, 33, and Wali Abdullah Al Ghazali, 36, have admitted involvement in a plot. The remainder have denied any part in it.

Police say most of the 14 drove across the frontier on April 12 in two vehicles, one of which was rigged with 80 kilograms of explosives, carrying 13 cases of illicit whisky for sale in Kuwait along with weapons and other explosives.

They say they were on alert after a tip-off from "secret sources" in Iraq and arrested the

group during Mr. Bush's visit before they were able to put the alleged plan into action.

The officer told the court Mr. Ghazali had given Kuwaiti police interrogation details of his orders from Iraqi intelligence.

"If you can't blow it up at Kuwait University, blow it up in Fahl Al Salem street, because this would give media momentum," Wali quoted one of his superiors as saying, the officer told the state security court.

The street is a major thoroughfare. Mr. Bush visited Kuwait on the third day of a trial of 11 Iraqis and three Kuwaitis charged with involvement in the alleged plot, which Iraq says is a fabrication.

In a last-minute change of schedule, Mr. Bush gave a speech in a small hall rather than the larger campus venue he was originally scheduled to visit.

In earlier testimony Mr. Ghazali said he had orders that, if he was unable to use the car-bomb, he was to strap on an explosives-laden belt, try to get near to Mr. Bush and then detonate the belt so as to kill both himself and the former U.S. leader.

A van rigged with about 80 kilograms of explosives was found when the group was

arrested.

Ghazali's testimony has indicated that the motive for the alleged plot was retaliation for U.N. sanctions imposed on Iraq following its invasion of Kuwait.

Ten of the 14 are accused of plotting to kill Mr. Bush and two are accused of being accomplices — both crimes punishable by death. A further two are accused of working with some of the defendants in illegally procuring liquor.

The officer, giving an account of the police questioning of the 14, told the court police had found no link between Iraqi intelligence and four of the defendants. He said the four had been used as a kind of "cover" for the mission.

He said police had found that Mr. Assadi and Mr. Ghazali were members of Iraqi intelligence. Mr. Ghazali had confessed that he had been chosen for the mission for "heroic" military service in the Gulf war and had received instruction in suicide missions.

The officer said three other accused, Saleem Nassir Sabeh Romi Al Sahamari, 34, Bandar Ajeel Jabin Al Shammari, 24, and Adel Ismail Eisa Al Otaibi,

44, were directly connected to the Iraqi intelligence service and aware of the plan to kill Mr. Bush.

He said police had found no link between Iraqi intelligence and four further co-accused — Hadi Aoudah Harjan Al Khaleel Al Shammari, 42, Ali Khudair Badai Abid, 65, Jabir Nasser Zayer Inad, 43, and Dhedn Ateyah Khalid Mohammad Al Khaldi, 38.

Mr. Assadi says Iraqi intelligence ordered him to plant 10 bombs in Kuwait and to drive Mr. Ghazali over the border into the emirate and to show Mr. Ghazali the location of the university — which Mr. Ghazali has said was meant to be where Mr. Bush would be killed.

Mr. Raad denied knowledge of a plot to kill Mr. Bush, saying he was told only of a plan to mount bombings. He calls himself a smuggler, coffee shop owner and part-time informer for Iraqi intelligence.

The U.S. embassy asked the estimated 6,000 U.S. citizens in Kuwait to be more cautious as a result of the missile strike on Baghdad, but said it did not know of any immediate threat.